

SUMMER READING ASSIGNMENTS  
SPARKMAN NINTH GRADE SCHOOL ENGLISH DEPARTMENT  
2012 – 2013

PRE-AP : Read both *A Separate Peace* by John Knowles and *To Kill a Mockingbird* by Harper Lee

Complete the project below for ***A Separate Peace***. The last day to hand in the project is Tuesday, September 4. An essay will be assigned by individual teachers on ***To Kill a Mockingbird*** after the semester begins.

There will be no required summer reading for English 9. Individual teachers will assign novels to read after the semester begins.

### QUOTATIONS PROJECT

#### **Procedure**

Use post-its to note/mark passages as you read. Every time you encounter a particularly important, provocative, dramatic, surprising, even disturbing passage, mark it with a post-it note and continue with your reading. Only when you have completed the novel will you look at all those passages and decide which to toss out and which to keep. When you have finished reading your book, you will select five(5) quotes from throughout the novel and a sixth quote that you consider the "Quote of the Book" according to the criteria on the back of this page. Copy the quotes down (including page numbers) and then write *two paragraphs* about *each* of the **first five** quotes in the following ways:

#### **Paragraph 1**

**First, in a well-written paragraph explain how the passage "fits" into the novel (does the passage add to the character development, the plot line, the details of setting, and so forth). Discuss the importance of the passage to the book's message or meaning or theme.**

#### **Paragraph 2**

**Then, in a well-written paragraph react to the passage as a reader. Make me understand WHY you have selected this passage. To generate responses, you can consider the following as suggested prompts or questions:**

Why does the passage impress, intrigue, horrify, or puzzle you? Do you find the author's use of language appealing or powerful? Does the passage jump off the page as a great descriptive passage? Does it prompt a strong response from you as you read it? Does it present itself as so well crafted that you just love the sound of it? Is the language beautiful, descriptive, graphic? Is it particularly meaningful? Is it a high point in the book? Do you find yourself in agreement/disagreement with the ideas expressed? Does the passage remind you of a situation you have lived as well? Does the passage make you laugh out loud or make you melancholy or make you something else? Does the author or the character raise intriguing questions or issues? Does the passage challenge or expand your thinking?

**... You get the idea.**

You are not limited to the above list, nor do I expect you to answer all of the above. But your responses to the passages should clearly explain to me **WHY** these passages mean something to you or **WHY** these passages caught your attention.

### **"The Quote of the Book"**

~This quote should be that one passage or quote that captures the essence – the true meaning – of the novel for you, the reader, and cannot be one of your previous quotes. In a well-written paragraph explain exactly HOW this passage is the one perfect quote from the book. Give specific supporting details. This paragraph should be at least ½ page.

### **Important Stuff**

All aspects of this assignment must be typed.

Passages/quotes must be at least two (2) sentences long. [Many of your passages should – and will be – longer than two sentences.] Passages/quotes must be from throughout the entire novel.

All passages must be in quotation marks – and be sure to copy the passage exactly as it appears in your novel.

All passages must include the page number from which they are taken. Cite page numbers as (235), or (16), or (105).

This assignment is due by September 4. Late projects will be penalized 20 points per day.

BE AWARE THAT THE NINTH GRADE ENGLISH TEACHERS KNOW ABOUT *CLIFF NOTES*, *SPARKNOTES*, AND THE INTERNET. WE WANT **YOUR** REACTION TO THESE QUOTES. IF YOU PLAGIARIZE, YOU WILL BE GIVEN A ZERO ON THIS ASSIGNMENT, WHICH WILL BE A TEST GRADE.