

## **Honors American Literature Summer Enrichment Assignment**

Welcome to Honors American Literature. I am looking forward to a wonderful year with all of you, and I hope that you will be ready to experience the various reading and writing experiences that are planned for you next year.

In order to be ready to jump into the “literature pool” right away this fall, you will need to complete the enclosed assignments prior to the first day of school. Read through the instructions carefully, and do the assignments completely. If you have any questions as you do the work, you may call me at 526-4355 or e-mail me at [mlancaster@northlandprep.org](mailto:mlancaster@northlandprep.org). I will not be available between June 6<sup>th</sup> and June 13<sup>th</sup>, but otherwise I will get back to you as soon as I can.

You will need this book:

*To Kill a Mockingbird*, Harper Lee

You will also need these supplies:

a three-ring notebook, preferably 2” to 3” wide

3-holed, college-ruled notebook paper (no spiral notebooks)

section dividers for notebook: Class notes, Vocabulary, Grammar, Essays, Reader’s Journal

at least 5 different colored pens or pencils for editing (as well as something that will hold these pens and pencils in your notebook)

### **Assignments for *To Kill a Mockingbird***

1. In the Reader’s Journal of your notebook, you will be keeping a dialectical journal. A dialectical journal is like a conversation with yourself about what you read. Divide the paper into two columns. In the left column you will write something from the book such as the name of a character, an action by a character, a quotation from the book, a symbol or other literary device (simile, personification, etc.). In the right column write your comment or a question you have about it. You should have a minimum of 12 entries in your dialectical journal. Below and continuing on the next page are examples of what it might look like:

John Smith

I wonder why he moved to this town? He seems like a city person.

white butterflies

third time I’ve seen this – Is it symbolic?

“She moved like a lioness through the tall weeds.”

vivid simile – I can picture what she looks like as she is walking

Fred slips glove into her pocket

What is he up to? Why all the sneaky things?  
I don't really like him.

"...the dark aspect of his look  
that silenced her..."

really sets the mood – Is it foreshadowing  
something bad?

2. Write a one-page paper in which you discuss the title of the book, including why the author might have chosen that title and what it means in reference to both Boo Radley and Tom Robinson. **The paper should be typed, double-spaced, in Times New Roman, font size 12.** In the upper left corner type your name, the class (Honors American Literature), and the date it is due (August 15, 2007).

Here are some suggestions to help you complete your work.

1. Get the books as soon as you can. Hastings or Barnes and Noble are fine (as well as any of the independent book stores in town), but if you find a used one at Bookman's you can save money.
2. Pace your reading so that you are not stuck doing all the reading and writing in August. The book is not difficult to read, so you shouldn't have any problem finishing the work if you spread it out over the summer.
3. Feel free to discuss your reading with your friends or family. Share ideas. Sometimes it helps to see things that you might have missed.
4. These will be due on the first day of school, no extensions, no excuses.

Have a great summer! Don't forget to let me know if you have any questions or difficulties.  
See you in August.

Mr. Lancaster