

## Honors English II

### Summer Reading & Critical Analysis Assignment (2026–2027)

#### Purpose

This assignment is designed to prepare you for Honors English 10 by developing your ability to:

- Analyze **complex themes and ideas**
  - Evaluate **author’s craft and purpose**
  - Write **clear, evidence-based arguments**
  - Think critically about **literature and society**
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#### Part I: Independent Reading (Choice-Based)

##### Directions

Choose **ONE** of the following novels:

- Pride and Prejudice
  - Brave New World
  - Jane Eyre
  - Lord of the Flies
  - The Alchemist
  - Tuesdays with Morrie
  - A Separate Peace
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#### Part II: Advanced Annotation & Thinking Tracker

As you read, you must track:

- **Theme development** (how ideas evolve—not just what they are)
  - **Character complexity** (internal conflict, contradictions, growth)
  - **Author’s craft:**
    - Symbolism
    - Tone shifts
    - Structure
  - **Significant passages** (minimum **12 quotes**)
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#### Part III: Analytical Reading Journal (High Rigor)

Complete **6 journal entries** across the novel.

**Each Entry (1 page) must include:**

**1. Context (2–3 sentences)**

- What is happening in this moment?

**2. Focused Analysis (Choose ONE per entry)**

- **Theme Development:** How is a central idea evolving or becoming more complex?
- **Character Complexity:** How does a character reveal conflicting motivations?
- **Symbolism & Meaning:** What deeper meaning is being constructed?
- **Author's Purpose:** What is the author trying to say about society or human nature?

**3. Textual Evidence**

- Include **one strong quote**
- Properly embed it

**4. Deep Analysis (CORE of Honors 10)**

Explain:

- What the quote reveals
- How the author's choices shape meaning
- Why this moment is important to the text as a whole

**5. Critical Thinking Extension**

Choose ONE:

- Connect to a modern issue
- Evaluate the author's message (Do you agree? Why or why not?)
- Connect to another text (book, film, or historical event)

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**Part IV: Literary Analysis Essay (Core Assessment)**

**Length: 2–2.5 pages**

**Prompt (High Rigor / Keystone-Aligned):**

Analyze how the author develops a complex theme through **characterization, conflict, and literary techniques**, and evaluate the effectiveness of those choices.

**Requirements:**

- Strong, **defensible thesis**
- **3 body paragraphs minimum**

- At least **3 pieces of textual evidence**
- Explanation of:
  - HOW the author develops the theme
  - WHY the author's choices are effective

**Advanced Expectation:**

- Include evaluative language:
  - *This is effective because...*
  - *The author successfully demonstrates...*
  - *This strengthens the reader's understanding of...*

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**Part V: Keystone-Style Constructed Response**

**Prompt (RACE Format):**

How does the author use a key moment in the text to develop a central idea about human nature or society?

**Requirements:**

- Restate
- Answer
- Cite evidence
- Explain reasoning

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**Part VI: Argument Writing (Pre-AP Skill Development)**

**Length: 1–1.5 pages**

**Prompt:**

*“Individuals are more influenced by society than by their own personal beliefs.”*

Write an argument in which you:

- Take a clear position
  - Use evidence from your novel
  - Include one real-world example
  - Address a counterargument
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## **Part VII: Creative + Analytical Extension**

Choose **ONE**:

### **Option A: Thematic Visual Analysis**

Create a visual representation of a theme with:

- 3 quotes
- Written explanation of how each supports the theme

### **Option B: Character vs. Society Analysis**

Write a 1-page explanation analyzing how a character either conforms to or challenges society

### **Option C: Alternate Perspective**

Rewrite a key scene from another character's perspective + analysis of how it changes meaning

## **Suggested Timeline (Balanced for Summer)**

### **June**

- Begin reading
- Complete 2 journal entries

### **July**

- Continue reading
- Complete 3 journal entries

### **Early August**

- Finish book
- Complete final journal entry
- Begin literary essay

### **Late August**

- Complete essay
- Write argument response
- Complete constructed response + extension

## Grading Breakdown

Component	Points
Journal Entries (6)	40
Literary Analysis Essay	25
Argument Essay	15
Constructed Response	10
Creative Extension	5
Annotation Check	5
<b>Total</b>	<b>100</b>