



Stratford High School 2018-2019 HONORS English I Summer Reading Assignments

Rising English I Honors (High School) – Night (Elie Wiesel)

SUMMER READING ASSIGNMENTS

GRADE	ASSIGNMENT	TIME FRAME
English I Honors (High School)	After Reading: Students will take part in a Socratic seminar followed by a critical writing assignment.	After Reading: Completed by the third week of school

*Newly placed or newly registered students have 3 weeks from entry to complete the assignments.

Socratic Seminar

A Socratic seminar is a way of teaching founded by the Greek philosopher Socrates. Socrates believed that students learn best by asking questions.

Socratic Seminars help us engage a text in class. The thought process is when you work together to understand a text it will help everyone’s understanding.

- **It is essential you read the text and prepare yourself with important questions and quotations.**
- **There are three levels of questions.**

Level 1 (Knowledge Questions):

- Knowledge means being able to show understanding by talking, writing, signing, drawing.

Please use the following stems in creating your Knowledge Questions:

- Can you state, **in your own words**?
- Can you **describe**?
- **Can you defend** your position?
- **Can you summarize** the information?

Level II (Application Questions):

Application means supporting your ideas with evidence.

Please use the following stems in creating your Application Questions:

- **Explain how ...**
- **Explain why ...**
- **Interpret the reasons ...**
- **Compare and contrast ...**
- **Connect and explain ...**

Level III (Synthesis Questions):

Synthesis means combining or connecting two different elements.

In terms of the Socratic Seminar you will be connecting two texts with each other OR connecting a text to the outside world.

Please use the following stems in creating your Synthesis Questions:

- **Imagine ...**
- **What would happen if ...?**
- **Hypothesize ...**
- **Theorize ...**
- **Speculate...**
- **How is Text similar to Outside World?**