



2018-2019 English 10 Summer Reading

10 Pages a Day!

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Each student taking English 10 should read the following novel and complete the assignment below by the first day of school.

Text: *The Once and Future King* by T.H. White

NOTE: *The Once and Future King* is a funny, action-packed fantasy epic, but it is quite long. Don't let yourself be intimidated by the number of pages. Set aside 15 minutes to read 10 pages each day, and you will have read the entirety of this phenomenal novel!

Assignment: Keep a reading journal of observations, responses, and critical insights. The expectations for the journal are:

- **Essential Questions:** As you read the book, keep the following question in mind: *How do the actions or dialogue in this text relate to fate and free will?*
- **Essential Quotes:** For each section of the book, record at least five quotes (minimum one full sentence; no more than 1 paragraph) and copy it into your journal.
 - *The Once and Future King* sections:
 - "The Sword in the Stone"
 - "The Queen of Air and Darkness"
 - "The Ill-Made Knight"
 - "The Candle in the Wind"
- **Personal responses:** Write a response to each quote that explores how you think the quote helps answer the essential question above. Potential response prompts include:
 - To what extent does fate play a role in the characters' actions or decisions?
 - How much control does a person have over who they become in life?
 - Who or what, ultimately, is most responsible for a person's actions?
 - Is it possible to escape fate?
 - What makes a character a hero?
 - What makes a character a villain?

SAMPLE JOURNAL ENTRY: From *Things Fall Apart* by Chinua Achebe

Quote from the text (include chapter and page number)	Response to the quote (use the prompt questions provided above)
"Ekwefi had suffered a good deal in her life. She had borne ten children and nine of them had died in infancy, usually before the age of three. As she buried one child after another her sorrow gave way to despair and then to grim resignation. The birth of her children, which should be a woman's crowning glory, became for Ekwefi mere physical agony devoid of promise" (Achebe, ch. 9,p. 77)	In our culture, the birth of a child is an event to be celebrated. The pain that Ekwefi feels as she continually brings forth life only to see it pass so quickly casts a shadow over what should be a joyous occasion. The author uses the term "physical agony" to show that Ekwefi no longer feels joy at the prospect of motherhood. Instead, she focuses on what is missing and the pain that takes its place.

If you have any questions, please contact Kristin Chapman, English Department Chair
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