

## Honors English 9 Summer Reading Assignments

*For your summer reading, you must read three books.*

**Book 1:** Tuesdays with Morrie – Mitch Albom

**Assignment:** You will be tested on this book during the first week of the year. The test will include multiple choice, matching, quote identification, character identification and an essay. You may take HANDWRITTEN notes on the novel as you read which you MAY USE on the in-class exam. Pay special attention to characters and plot development.

**Book 2:** Sweet Summer – Bebe Moore Campbell

**Assignment:** (Due the first day of school.) As you read this memoir, use post-it notes to mark important or meaningful passages (minimum 3 sentences) in the book. Every time you encounter a particularly provocative, dramatic, surprising, meaningful or even disturbing passage, mark it! Once you are done with the book, review your selected passages. You must do the following:

A) Select the “Quote of the Book.” This should be the one passage that captures the essence, or true meaning, of the memoir for you. In a well-written paragraph, minimum 200 words, explain why this is the perfect quote from the book.

B) Select TEN passages from your marked selections. For each of the ten passages, you must do the following:

1) Write one paragraph explaining how the passage “fits” into the novel. (Does it add to character development? To the plot line? Create setting or mood?)

Discuss the importance of the passage to the book’s message or theme.

2) Write a second paragraph reacting to the passage as a reader. Make it clear WHY you have selected this passage. What drew you to this quote? What about this passage seemed special? Consider the following as suggested prompts or suggestions:

- 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? Is it so well-crafted that you love the sound of it? Is the language beautiful, descriptive, graphic?
- Is it particularly meaningful? Is it a high point of the book? Do you agree/disagree with the ideas there?
- Does the passage make you laugh, make you sad, or something else? Does the author or character raise intriguing questions or issues?
- Does the passage challenge or expand your thinking?
- Does the passage impress, intrigue, horrify or puzzle you?

You are not limited to this list, but be sure you tell me WHY these passages caught your attention. DO NOT REPEAT YOURSELF! DO NOT SUMMARIZE PLOT!

**Book 3:** Your choice of a fictional novel

**Assignment:** Your assignment for this novel will be given to you at the start of class in the fall. Due date will be assigned once class begins. Feel free to take notes on your novel and mark important passages as you read along!