



Bengal English

Honors English 1 HHS 2024-2025

Summer Assignment

Harry Potter and the Sorcerer's Stone by J.K. Rowling

Honors English 1 students:

Welcome to the HHS Honors English I program for 2024-2025! We look forward to working with you this upcoming year. As an honors student, it is our expectation that you come to class with a commitment to excellence, and it is our goal that you leave our classes with a love of literature and writing.

Honors English 1 begins with a shared summer reading experience thematically related to a focus of the course: The Hero's Journey. Honors English 1 students must read *Harry Potter and the Sorcerer's Stone* by J.K. Rowling. This reading, along with the reading journal described is **due the first day of school**.

READ THE NOVEL

Copies of *Harry Potter and the Sorcerer's Stone* are available for checkout at the HHS main office. Copies are also available at the Lewis and Clark Library.

READING JOURNAL

Along with your reading, you will create a reading journal. Read the novel for pleasure first! You will have an easier time completing the reading journal if you already know the plot, characters, and themes. Tab key elements of fiction with sticky notes or colored tabs. This will help with your assignment and essay as well as the class discussion when you arrive. You may determine the layout of your reading journal, but it must be typed, proof-read, and easy to follow. Your TYPED reading journal must include the following information:

1. A list of 1-3 key events in each chapter. Write 1-2 good sentences describing each event and its importance to the story as a whole.
2. Choose four (4) of the attached seven (7) questions and answer each in 5-10 complete sentences. **In addition, create two (2) of your own questions with answers.** The purpose of answering these questions is to get you considering themes and thinking complexly about the story. Be sure to use evidence/details from the novel in your answers.
 1. Is it fair for the children to be separated into different houses?
 2. Is curiosity a good or bad trait?
 3. Should young children be encouraged to compete against each other?
 4. Is it ever ethical to not follow the rules?
 5. Which is more important: common sense or knowledge?
 6. Is it just to separate the wizarding world and the muggle world?
 7. Does humanity have a place in a quest for power?

*****Please note that if any portion of your summer assignment is plagiarized or AI generated you may be removed from Honors English!***

We hope you all enjoy your summer. We can't wait to meet you!

If you have any questions, please feel free to email Jeff Sykes at jsykes@helenaschools.org