

### **Why do we have a summer reading assignment?**

The key to being a great reader and a great writer is like riding a bike – it takes practice. It also takes exposure. How can one ride a bike without first seeing how it is done? Reading is not something we want you to do just during the school year; life-long learners are also life-long readers. Summer also provides time to enjoy uninterrupted reading and allows students to digest ideas prior to discussing and interpreting ideas in class.

### **The Novel**

*Lord of the Flies* by William Golding / Edition: Lord of the Flies – Text, Notes, Criticism

[https://www.amazon.com/Lord-Flies-Text-Notes-Criticism/dp/0399506438/ref=sr\\_1\\_3?crid=3SQODG26PPTV2&keywords=lord+of+the+flies&qid=1681744333&s=books&sprefix=lord+of+the%2Cstripbooks%2C100&sr=1-3](https://www.amazon.com/Lord-Flies-Text-Notes-Criticism/dp/0399506438/ref=sr_1_3?crid=3SQODG26PPTV2&keywords=lord+of+the+flies&qid=1681744333&s=books&sprefix=lord+of+the%2Cstripbooks%2C100&sr=1-3)

### **Why has my teacher chosen this novel?**

English 10 is a world literature curriculum; in *Lord of the Flies*, a group of boys survive a plane crash on a deserted island where no adults survive. This novel looks at order vs. chaos, human survival and human nature, and the loss of innocence. Mostly, the book brings up the question of human goodness vs human depravity and as Christians, this topic will be interesting to discuss.

### **The Assignment**

Step 1: Read and enjoy the novel!

Step 2: Annotate the Text, which will be turned in on the first day of school (details below).

Step 3: Write a two-page essay, which will be due on the first day of school (details below).

### **Annotations: What Do You Highlight?**

If you feel like you have no idea what/how to annotate, start here:

- What do you **notice**? What jumps out at you as you read?
- What keeps coming up **again and again**? Are there any recurring themes/symbols?
- Can you **make a prediction** about what comes next based on what just happened?
- Can you **make connections** to yourself, the world, or other books?
- Are there significant **quotes** that add meaning to the text?
- Are you noticing any **figurative language** (similes, metaphors, sensory language, etc.)

### **Essay Prompt**

Write an argumentative essay that states what you believe is the most central theme in the novel. You must support your position with textual evidence. Your essay should be written in MLA format ([https://owl.purdue.edu/owl/research\\_and\\_citation/mla\\_style/mla\\_formatting\\_and\\_style\\_guide/mla\\_formatting\\_and\\_style\\_guide.html](https://owl.purdue.edu/owl/research_and_citation/mla_style/mla_formatting_and_style_guide/mla_formatting_and_style_guide.html)) and you should NOT use any outside sources – all evidence should come from the novel only.

### **When is the assignment due?**

The novel and annotations should be completed by Thursday, August 10<sup>th</sup>, 2023.

### **A Final Note:**

This assignment is intended to challenge. It is also intended for me to see where each student is at the start of this year. If you have questions, email me. However, understand that this is intentionally vague – I want to see what you can do *independently*. Additionally, please understand that you will be expected to turn this in on the first day of school. It will be to your detriment if you do not come to class prepared. See you soon! 😊