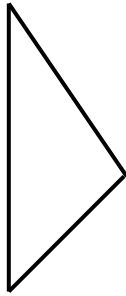


WEST *Elizabeth*
JEFFERSON *Hills*
Pleasant **HILLS**



SCHOOL DISTRICT

THOMAS JEFFERSON HIGH SCHOOL
310 OLD CLAIRTON ROAD
JEFFERSON HILLS, PA 15025

Mr. Timothy W. Haselhoff, Principal
Mr. Paul Ware, Associate Principal
Mr. Keith Hartbauer, Vice Principal

Phone (412) 655-8610
Fax (412) 655-8618
www.wjhsd.net

Dear Parents and Guardians of the Class of 2014,

Reading is a task that is necessary in most of the curriculum of Thomas Jefferson High School. The English department at the high school is committed to fostering reading, not only as a tool to academic success, but as a source of enjoyment throughout our students' lives. We are also dedicated to meeting the goals of reading that are a part of the ninth grade essential learnings and the Pennsylvania Department of Education standards.

In an effort to promote reading in our students, the English department, with the approval of The West Jefferson Hills Board of School Directors, has established a summer reading program for all students. The summer reading selection for this year's eighth graders entering ninth grade in the fall is *The Giver* by Lois Lowry. This young adult novel has won several awards, including the Newberry, and was selected as the 2009 Allegheny County "One Book, One Community" novel. Students will be expected to read the novel over the summer and complete an assignment in preparation for the first day of school. The novel and directions for this assignment will be introduced and distributed on Move-up Day in June. It will also be posted on the WJHSD/TJ website under "Summer Reading" beginning July 1, 2010, or can be obtained by visiting the Guidance Office after that date. Copies of the book will also be available as of July 1 from Guidance but are the property of WJHSD, so they must be returned to TJ along with the required assignments on the first day of school in the fall. However, some students may choose to purchase their own copies of the novel. Please note that additional activities and evaluation based on this summer reading selection will be part of the instruction at the beginning of the year and will be included in the Midterm Examination.

We hope that as parents you will partner with us in helping to instill in our students an appreciation of reading and a desire to succeed academically at TJHS. Let them know how important reading is. Encourage your child to read this novel and make certain that his/her assignment is completed for the beginning of the year.

Sincerely,
Mrs. Barker and Ms. Kennedy
The Ninth Grade English Teachers of Thomas Jefferson High School

Summer Reading Assignment Part I: *The Giver*

Welcome to Thomas Jefferson High School! Between now and the beginning of the school year in August, please read the novel *The Giver* by Lois Lowry. *The Giver* explores the value of memory and asks the reader to reflect on both individual and collective memories and how these memories shape who we are today and influence what we will become in the future. You will be responsible for completing the assignment listed below. All components of the assignment are due on the first day of school.

Please complete the following:

1. Read the novel.
2. The story offers a variety of themes. Select one of the following theme topics:
 - The needs of society versus the needs of the individual
 - “Sameness” versus difference
 - Conformity versus obedience
 - Security versus risks
 - The power and importance of language
 - Honesty versus dishonesty
 - A “just” society versus an “unjust” society
 - The power of music, art, and creativity
 - The value of freedom (or freedom versus lack of freedom)
3. Select one of these themes. Find a quote in *The Giver* that represents this theme. Avoid unnecessarily long quotes (length approximately one to two sentences). Copy the words exactly from the novel onto the poster/collage and place quotation marks around it. Follow it with documentation that looks like this: **“I am looking forward to next year” (Lowry 16)**. Lowry is the author’s last name, and 16 is the page number where the quote is found.
4. Using construction paper, prepare either a poster or a collage depicting this quote. The size of the construction paper should be 12” by 18”.
5. Display the **title** of the novel and the **author’s name** on the poster. Divide the poster/collage into two parts. One half should depict the quote you selected (#3 above) in Jonas’s world with pictures and drawings. The second half should depict the quote in our world today with pictures and drawings. **Label the two worlds** appropriately. Again, make certain that the **quote** is on the final product as well as the **theme topic** chosen.
6. This will be an **evaluated assignment**, so do your best, most creative, and neatest work.

Summer Reading Assignment Part II: *The Giver*

Avocation or Vocation? Summer Reading Writing Assignment

- Respond to the following prompt:
“When you grow up, what is the career that you would like to have as your life’s work?”
- Organize, draft, and revise your paragraph (a minimum of six sentences) in the following way:
 - Sentence 1: Topic sentence which mentions the career
 - Sentence Cluster 2: Sentence(s) which explains *why* you have chosen this career
 - Sentence Cluster 3: Explain how you are suited to this profession. (Sentence # not limited.)
 - Sentence Cluster 4: Explain an advantage of this career. (Sentence # not limited.)
 - Sentence Cluster 5: Explain a disadvantage of this career. (Sentence # not limited.)
 - Sentence 6: Concluding sentence
- Proofread your paragraph for accurate spelling, capitalization, sentence structure, and punctuation.
- Publish your final paragraph following the Manuscript Form sheet included with this assignment. If you have a computer at home, type this assignment. Please double-space and use 12 point font Times New Roman. If you plan to hand-write your paragraph, please take composition paper from the room and write in blue or black ink observing one inch margins.
- Title your paragraph and place your name, English 1, period, and date (the heading) on the back according to Manuscript Format (lower right hand corner on back of last page which consists of name, English 1, period. and date assignment is due).
- This paragraph will be evaluated according to the following rubric of 15 points:

Content 6 points

Manuscript form 5 points

Paper
Margins
Spacing
Ink (if writing)
Heading
Title

Mechanics 4 points

Spelling
Capitalization
Punctuation
Sentence format

BRING THESE ASSIGNMENTS AND YOUR NOVEL WITH YOU ON THE FIRST DAY OF SCHOOL.

This book must be returned to your ninth grade English teacher at Thomas Jefferson High School at the beginning of the school year. If lost, the replacement cost is \$14.00.

Once you begin school in August, expect other assignments to follow including a **reading quiz**. Please be prepared for the first day of school. **Start the school year in a positive way.**

MANUSCRIPT FORM: FORMAT FOR WRITING ASSIGNMENTS

These are the rules for the format of compositions. Please keep this in your English binder.

- **For ALL Compositions, do the following:**

1. Order your pages correctly.
2. Place your evaluation page in the BACK of your essay.
3. Place the following heading on the BACK of your evaluation page in the bottom right-hand quadrant:
Name
English 1
Period
Date
4. Staple your pages in the upper left hand corner.
5. Every composition must have a title.
 - ✓ Do not punctuate your title in any way.
 - ✓ Do not make it larger than your normal handwriting.
 - ✓ Do not put quotes around it.
 - ✓ Do not underline it.
6. Number your pages beginning with page 2. Write the page number only (i.e., 2, 3, etc.).

- **Handwritten Essays:**

1. Use blue or black ink.
2. Use composition paper.
3. Leave a one-inch margin on each side of the paper. (You do not have to measure.)
4. Write on one side of the paper only.
5. Write the title on the center of the top line.

Note: You may write in cursive or print. The only requirement is that it is neat and legible.

- **Word-Processed Papers:**

1. Use the presets of your word processor. (Adjust for one inch margins, however.)
2. Use "Times New Roman," font, size 12.
3. Double-space all compositions.
4. Type and print on one side of the paper only.
5. Type your title on the first line and then double-space and begin your essay.

Remember: If you have a printing emergency, you may email me with your composition saved as an attachment. You must use "Word" to attach a document in this extreme instance. Make certain that you see me in the morning during homeroom BEFORE CLASS to inform me of the email.

Mrs. Barker's email address is sbarker@wjhsd.net.

Ms. Kennedy's email address is kkennedy@wjhsd.net.

English 1
Mrs. Barker/Mrs. Miller

Name _____
Date _____ Period _____

Avocation or Vocation? Paragraph Rubric

I. Content	/6
Topic sentence	
Explanation of <i>why</i> you have chosen this career	
Explanation of how you are suited to this profession	
Advantage(s) of this career	
Disadvantage(s) of this career	
Concluding sentence	
II. Manuscript form	/5
Paper	
Margins	
Spacing	
Ink (if writing)	
Heading	
Title	
III. Mechanics	/4
Spelling	
Capitalization	
Punctuation	
Sentence format	
TOTAL	/15