

*Centennial High School – Summer Reading – 2009-2010*  
*Ninth Grade Honors*

Welcome to honors English at Centennial! Both your middle school and high school instructors have worked hard to ensure that you get the most out of your high school English classes. Next year, you will build upon what you've done in middle school. You will have the opportunity to read, write, discuss, and evaluate as you explore the beauty and complexity of the English language.

As part of your preparation for an honors English class, you are required to read **two** books this summer. All incoming freshmen in an honors class will read *House of the Scorpion*, by Nancy Farmer. The other book will be chosen from the list of titles below. As you are reading this summer, be aware of the response activities that will count toward your first semester grade in English.

ALL STUDENTS READ:
<i>The House of the Scorpion</i> , Nancy Farmer
CHOOSE ONE OF THE FOLLOWING:
<i>Nineteen Minutes</i> , Jodi Picoult <i>Speak</i> , Laurie Halse Anderson <i>Twisted</i> , Laurie Halse Anderson <i>The Book Thief</i> , Markus Zusak

Assignments

**First Novel: *The House of the Scorpion***

After you read, complete the attached reading log. Please use a PEN or type your responses. Use complete sentences and use textual evidence to support your responses.

**Second Novel: Student's Choice (see list above)**

As you read, complete a double entry reading log for the book. Please see the example on the back of this sheet. **You should have at least 10 entries in your log.** You can set them up on notebook paper, or you can download the blank log from the English website: <http://chsenglish.org>. You should use a PEN or type your responses. Use complete sentences.

**Centennial High School**  
**Summer Reading Response-- 9<sup>th</sup> Grade Honors**  
**DOUBLE ENTRY READING LOG**  
**Use this form for the second novel (student choice)**

The purpose of a double entry reading log is to help you understand and analyze what you read. As you read, note in excerpts that strike you in some way, perhaps something you question or don't understand or something you agree or disagree with. Then once you have noted that part, react to it, reflect upon it, question it, or think about how it is related to other parts of what you're reading or to something outside the text. The two sides of the double-entry reading log should be a dialogue between you and the reading.

Directions:

1. Divide a page lengthwise into two columns.
2. At the top, write the date, the title/chapter of the book, and the author.
3. In the left column, write a quote from the reading. Include the page number.
4. Then in the right column, write your reaction to that entry.

The following are ideas to help you begin. Not all areas need to be addressed.

READING NOTES	REFLECTION NOTES
<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Quote directly from the reading: words, phrases or sentences that for you clearly suggest meaning or that you simply like.</li> <li>2. Write down anything you find challenging or different: any image or idea, or way of saying something that strikes you in some way.</li> <li>3. Write down any parts you don't understand or parts you have questions or problems with.</li> <li>4. List words whose meanings you don't know for sure.</li> <li>5. If you need to, draw pictures or diagrams to help you understand the reading.</li> </ol>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Comment on a direct quote. Explain why you found it significant or enjoyable. Or paraphrase it.</li> <li>2. Explain why you found something challenging or different. Analyze it.</li> <li>3. Try to explore anything that confuses you or gives you trouble. Write your question(s). You don't have to answer the questions, just try to figure out what the questions are. Or challenge the point being made: argue.</li> <li>4. Consult a dictionary and write down definitions of words you don't know.</li> <li>5. Explain your drawings to achieve further understanding of the reading.</li> <li>6. Make any closing comments about your reactions to the reading as a whole.</li> </ol>

**Centennial High School**  
**Summer Reading Response-- 9<sup>th</sup> Grade Honors**  
**Use this form for the first novel (*The House of the Scorpion*)**

**I. Elements of Plot and Characterization**

In two to three well-written and nicely-detailed sentences, chronicle the evolution, or development, of **one of the main characters** for each of the following elements of plot.

Exposition:

Rising Action

Climax

Falling Action

Denouement (or Resolution):

**II. Theme**

Isolate one passage that comments on the dominant theme of the novel, copying the passage in the space provided. Then, compose one well-developed paragraph, approximately five to eight sentences in length, explaining the novel's theme and the manner in which the selected passage reveals the particular theme.

Selected Passage	Explanation of Theme

