

Dear Students and Parents,

Welcome to English I PreAP! This class includes a summer reading component with required reading and responding. Getting started in the summer provides you with initial preparation for the course you will take this coming school year and allows you the flexibility to proceed on your own schedule at your own pace. **Be aware that assignment is due the first Wednesday after school starts for a test grade.** You will receive the assignment in May, closer to the end of the school year.

Many students have questions regarding English PreAP, especially if they've never taken the class before. Below, you will find helpful information.

**Q: What kind of student takes English PreAP?**

In order to succeed in this class you will need to

- **It is crucial that you be a strong English student.** This means you like to read and write, and you're good at it. If you hate reading or writing or both, or you struggle with either, you will not enjoy this class.
- **Secondly, you should be able to think critically.** You don't just identify literary terms, but you ask why and think about the significance of them or the deeper meaning / reading between the lines and connecting to theme.
- **Most importantly, you must have a strong work ethic and a willingness to learn.** This means you complete all assignments and turn them in on time, come to tutorials for help or when absent. To be able to grow as a writer, you must be willing to take the comments I write on your essays into consideration and correct those mistakes on the next writing assignment. Students who aren't the best critical thinkers can still do well in this class if they work hard to improve.

**Q: What kind of writing will we do in English PreAP/AP?**

The main focus of writing is analytical, as opposed to STAAR writing skills. We will write some STAAR expository essays since this is your first year for the ELAR test; however, because you are in an advanced class, I expect you to be able to write these easily without much instruction. If you are not a strong writer, you will struggle in this class. You should not have any major troubles with grammar and spelling. Analytical writing means that you're able to "read between the lines" in literature and deconstruct quotes, or take them apart to reveal true meaning. We do this through the use of literary devices found in the quotes. We always connect literary devices to a theme in the text.

**Q: What are some of the basic daily expectations?**

- You must know, understand, and be able to apply literary terms and be prepared for pop quizzes about those terms throughout the year.
- Participation is a must! That consists of taking notes and talking aloud in class.
- You should be willing to come to tutorials to ask questions when you need additional help. Do not expect your grade to improve if you're struggling and not willing to ask for help.
- It is expected that you complete all assignments, including readings, by the given deadline.
- It is imperative that you listen to my instruction in order to understand a writing assignment, but also be willing to think for yourself and take chances. As long as you support your ideas with textual evidence, your ideas cannot be wrong! ☺

**Q: Do you offer extra credit?**

The only extra credit offered throughout the year is a signed progress report 2 times each 9 weeks, which adds 5 points to a test grade. Therefore, you need to be sure to complete all work as instructed to your best ability.

**Q: How does PreAP affect my grade? What type of grade should I expect?**

- PreAP classes receive 5 points on their class rank. The 5 points does NOT affect the class average on progress reports or report cards, nor does it affect your GPA. It only affects your class rank. It is possible for students who are not in PreAP/AP classes to be ranked higher due to better grades in a regular class.
- Expect this class to be more of a challenge than 8<sup>th</sup> grade PreAP, simply because each grade level gets a little more difficult as you learn more literary devices and get closer to the AP test (11<sup>th</sup> and 12<sup>th</sup> grade years). Do not expect an automatic A without hard work. You will receive the grade you earn, so be sure to work hard and ask for help when needed!
- You should not rely on ZAP to have a good grade in this class. You should complete all work and do your best the first time it is assigned.

**Q: What is the difference between a PreAP and a regular English class?**

- We read some of the same texts; however, we do different assignments for them. While regular classes lean more toward STAAR instruction, we lean more toward AP instruction (analytical/critical thinking). Please understand that a regular class is not a blow-off class. They are still challenging classes that prepare students for college. We work at a much faster pace; there are more outside readings; there is a higher expectation that students are able to write well, think critically, complete all assignments and come to tutorials if needed.
- You will have a 3-week period if you need to make a schedule change. This time allows you to get a good feel of what the year will be like in class. We will have taken a test, written an essay, annotated a text, held class discussion and notes, and worked on AP Multiple Choice questions, among other things. You will receive a class syllabus with more details on the first day of school.

**Q: What advice do you have for the summer reading assignment?**

- Do NOT procrastinate on your summer reading assignment. If you do not complete the summer reading assignment or if you do not follow instructions, do not expect to pass the assignment and possibly the 1<sup>st</sup> 9 weeks.
- Work alone and without the help of the internet so as to avoid plagiarism, which will result in a 0 test grade that cannot be made up. You should not need the help of any websites to complete the work; I want to know YOUR thoughts and what you're capable of.
- The novel chosen for the Pre-AP summer reading is *Lord of the Flies* by William Golding. Purchasing this book is not required, although you can purchase your own copy so that you can make notes in the book, which is suggested. Books checked out at the high school library are to be returned to the library when we're done with it in class. If the book is damaged, you will be responsible for the cost of the book. The assignment will be coming soon.

If you have any questions, please contact me at [amygoalsby@hjisd.net](mailto:amygoalsby@hjisd.net).

Mrs. Goolsby

If you are signing up for PreAP, please sign and have a parent or guardian sign that you understand the class expectations for English I PreAP. The summer reading assignment will be delivered to the middle school in May, closer to the end of the school year.

You should keep the letter and return this page only to your English teacher, who will get it to me.

Thank you!  
Mrs. Goolsby  
English I PreAP

Student Signature: \_\_\_\_\_

Parent Signature: \_\_\_\_\_

Date: \_\_\_\_\_

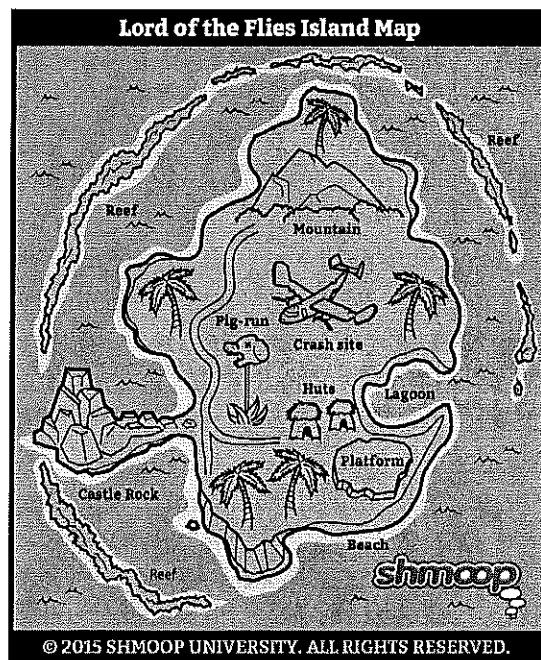
*Lord of the Flies* Summer Reading Assignment  
English I PreAP / Mrs. Goolsby

Summer Reading Assignment for incoming English I PreAP students, school year 2018-2019.

1. **Read *Lord of the Flies* by William Golding.** You can find a library with the novel or purchase your own copy (and write in it). I suggest using your own copy as we will be using it for the first several weeks of school, and your own notes may help you. The high school library has copies of the book. You will need to see Mrs. Maxwell, the librarian, soon if you plan on checking out from the library.
2. **Be prepared to take a test sometime during the first week of school over the novel when you return from summer. Test day will be announced on the first day of school. It will be 40% of the summer reading assignment test grade.** You will need to have read the novel to completion, know characters, setting, events/plot line, have a general knowledge of literary terms and be able to identify them within quotes (simile, metaphor, personification, theme, symbolism, etc.)
3. **This assignment will be due upon test day, and any assignments not turned in at that time will result in loss of points. As per the English department policy, 30 points will be deducted on test grades per school day late, beginning when called for. This assignment will be 60% of the test grade.**
4. **Complete the following assignment as you read the novel.** Don't wait to complete it until after you've finished reading; it will be much more difficult. Again, this will be 60% of your test grade, and it will help you complete assignments involving *Lord of the Flies* in the first several weeks of school.
5. Don't wait until the last minute to read the novel and do the assignment! Be proactive in getting a good grade!
6. **Any student who is found plagiarizing any part of the assignment will receive a 0 for this assignment and will not be able to make it up or complete extra credit.** Use your own thoughts.
7. Contact me at [amygoolsby@hjsd.net](mailto:amygoolsby@hjsd.net) with questions you may have throughout the summer. If you lose this handout, you can find a copy of it along with the MLA template on my website ([hs.hjsd.net](http://hs.hjsd.net) → Students → Academic Departments → English → Mrs. Goolsby)

Some helpful tips while reading:

- The "scar" is the devastation on the physical landscape where the plane crashes.
- The "creepers" are vines and other jungle greenery.
- "Taken short" means to have diarrhea. The boys might get this from eating a lot of fresh fruit.



### Part 1: Symbolism

- In each of the square boxes, you need to find a significant quote for the given symbol. It can be description, a character's use of the symbol, or something significant happening with it or to it. Think deeply on this and choose **significant** quotes as they will help you later in class. Remember that a quote is ANYTHING found in the book – narration or dialogue. A quote is not always something someone says. The quotes for each box can be more than one sentence, but should not be extremely long. Use MLA format and write neatly or type it using the given template. I've given you an example for the fire symbol.
- Underneath each visual, answer the questions that follow.

Part 1: Symbolism

Ralph says, "The fire's the most important thing. Without the fire, we can't be rescued. I'd like to put on war-paint and be a savage. But we must keep the fire burning" (Golding 142).

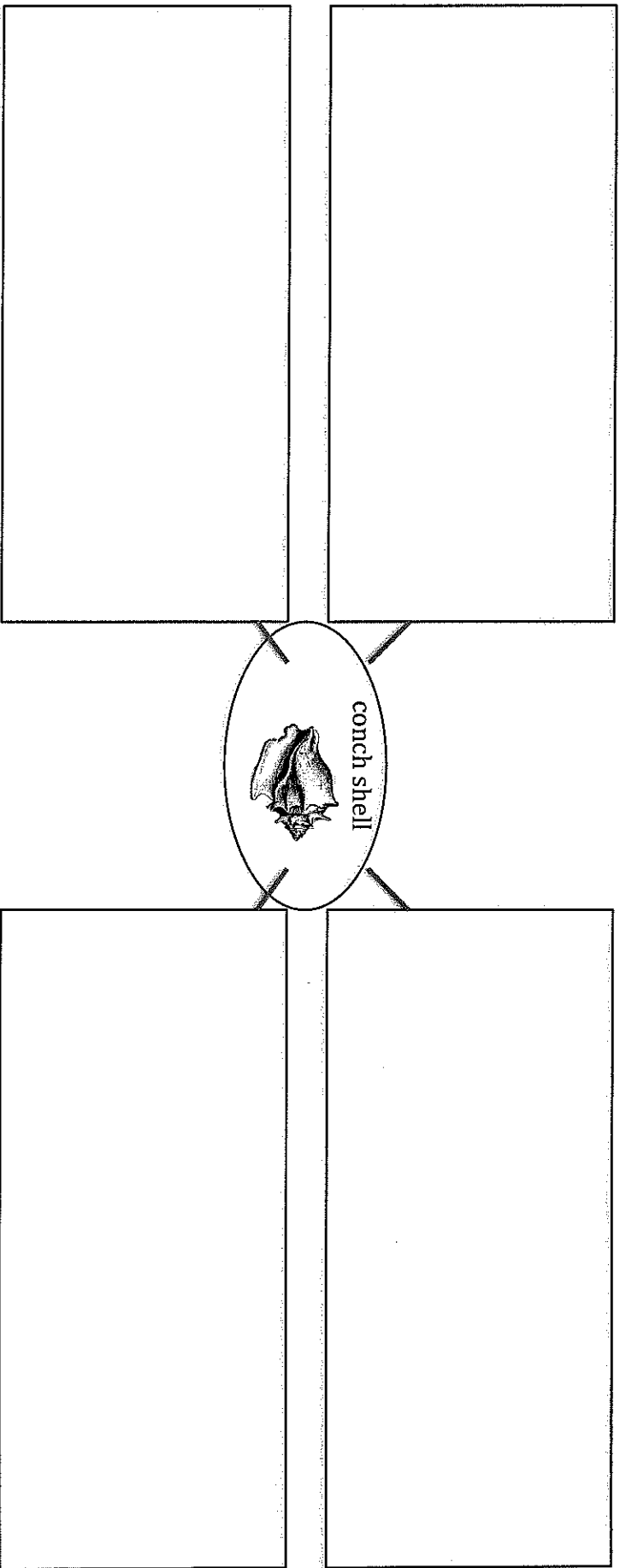


Empty rectangular box for notes.

Two empty rectangular boxes for notes, one above the other.

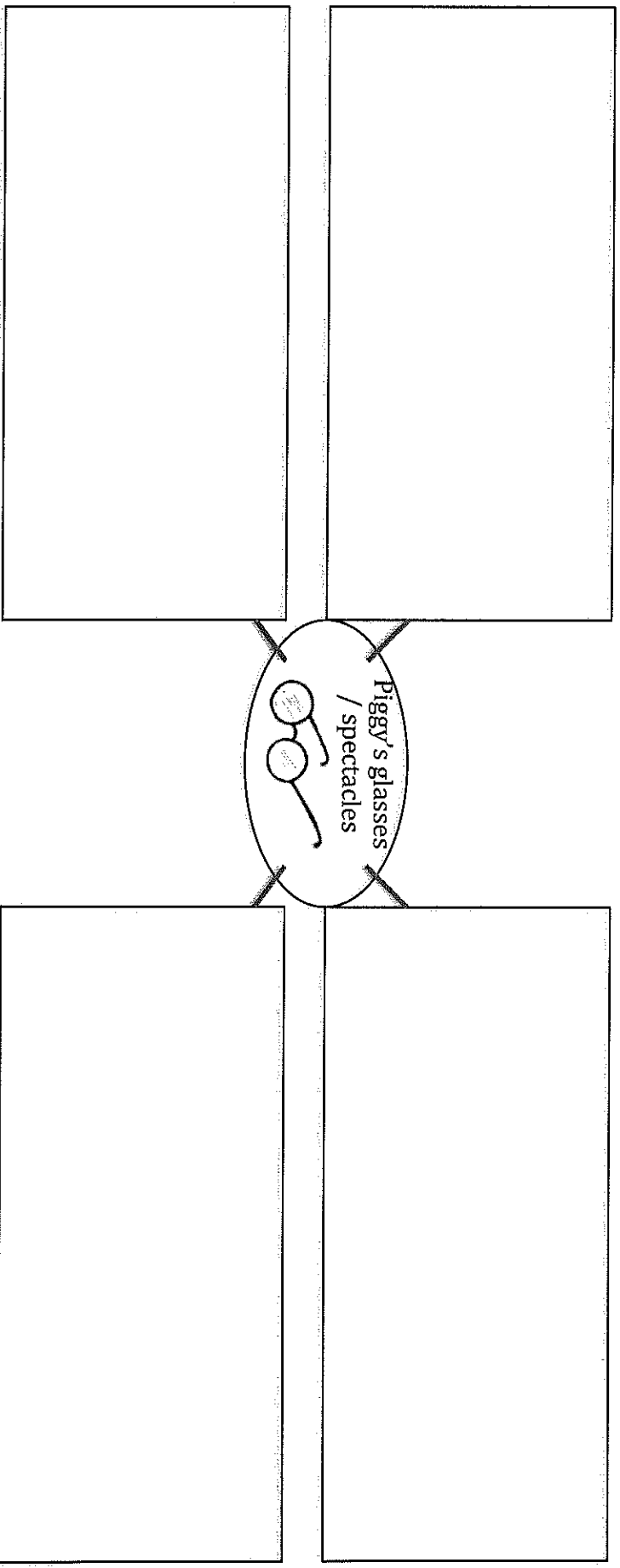
1. What does fire represent in the novel?
2. What does fire in the novel teach us about human nature / human kind? (1-2 sentences)

Part 1: Symbolism



1. What does the conch shell represent in the novel?
2. What does the conch shell teach us about human nature / human kind? (1-2 sentences)

Part 1: Symbolism



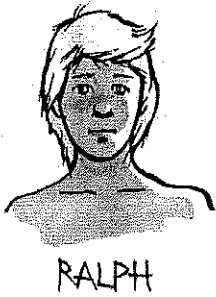
1. What does Piggy's glasses represent in the novel?

2. What does his glasses teach us about human nature / human kind? (1-2 sentences)

Lord of the Flies Summer Reading Assignment  
English I PreAP / Mrs. Goolsby

**Part 2: Characters**

- In each of the square boxes, you need to find a significant quote for the given character. It can be a description of the character (think more personality than physical), what he says or does, or what someone else thinks about that character. Think deeply on this and choose **significant** quotes as they will help you later in class. The quotes for each box can be more than one sentence, but should not be extremely long. Use MLA format and write neatly or type it using the given template. I've given you an example for Piggy.
- Answer the questions that follow.




What does Ralph teach us about human nature / mankind? (1-2 sentences)




What does Jack teach us about human nature / mankind? (1-2 sentences)



Lord of the Flies Summer Reading Assignment  
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PIGGY

"He sighed, bent, and laced up his shoes....Then, with the martyred expression of a parent who has to keep up with the senseless ebullience of the children, he picked up the conch, turned toward the forest, and began to pick his way over the tumbled scar" (Golding 38).

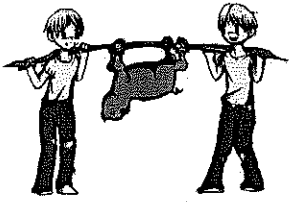
What does Piggy teach us about human nature / mankind? (1-2 sentences)



Simon

What does Simon teach us about human nature / mankind? (1-2 sentences)

*Lord of the Flies* Summer Reading Assignment  
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Samneric (Sam & Eric)


What does Samneric teach us about human nature / mankind? (1-2 sentences)

**Part 3: The Hunts**

- Identify / describe the hunt listed in the following chapters.
- Explain how each hunt helps with the break down of society and civilization of the boys.

Chapter 1
Chapter 3
Chapter 4
Chapter 8
Chapter 9
Chapter 12

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**Part 4: Reflection on Theme**

- 19<sup>th</sup> century British Lord Acton once said, “Absolute power corrupts absolutely.” Think about how this applies to *Lord of the Flies* and read the following theme statements:
  - People are innately savage and when the rules of civilization are lost, those savage ways will control behavior.
  - A society is only as good as its most corrupt member. Golding says, “A society must depend on the ethical nature of the individual and not on any political system however apparently logical or respectable” (204).
  - Life is a constant battle between our cultivated nature and the intrinsic desire to rebel against rules.
  - Violence is a way for people to exert power over others, which in turn makes them feel god-like.
- Now, think about the title of the novel.
  - The “lord of the flies” is a translation of the Hebrew *Ba'alzevuv* (*Beelzebub* in Greek). It has been suggested that it was a...suggestive name for the Devil...[who] is devoted to decay, destruction, demoralization, hysteria and panic” (Epstein 205). In the novel, the “lord of the flies” is a literal pig’s head on a stick. Think about the interaction that Simon has with it.
- Type your response in MLA format (see writing prompt below):
  - font = Times New Roman, size 12
  - double spaced
  - Header (on ALL pages, top right) = Lastname 1 ←Press “insert page number” so the number will change with each page. Do NOT manually type in the number.
  - Heading (only on the first page, upper left side and double spaced)
    - Your Name
    - Mrs. Goolsby
    - English I PreAP
    - # Month Year
  - Be sure to place quote marks around your quotes and cite with MLA format. See example quotes on the character and symbol sections for an example. Remember that a quote is ANYTHING found in the book – narration or dialogue. A quote is not always something someone says.
  - Also be sure to indent all paragraphs. There is no certain number of paragraphs you should have, but you should organize your essay, and as always, paragraphs should contain one main thought. When you change thought/topic/subject, start a new paragraph.
  - *You can see my website for a template or Google: MLA template to see an example or to use to set it up.*
- **Writing Prompt:** Write a well-organized, 1-1½ page response about the following:
  - Choose ONE theme and explain how that theme applies to the story within *Lord of the Flies*.
  - Explain why you think he titled the book as he did.
  - Explain if you agree or disagree with the theme statement and explain any connection to our society today. Give examples of our world where you see the same thing happening to us (or how you don’t see it if you disagree).
  - You will need to use 1-2 quotes (total) from the novel for support, where you feel necessary.