

Dear Gifted English I students,

In order to prepare you for the study of literature in my gifted English I class, you are required to complete a summer reading assignment. In an effort to make summer reading more enjoyable, I am limiting the reading to just one book, *The Picture of Dorian Gray* by Oscar Wilde. In order to receive credit for the summer reading, on the first day of class you must bring me your annotated copy of the book; annotations may be done either with sticky notes or direct writing in the book. In addition, on the first day in class, you will have forty minutes to write an analysis essay on this book. This essay will prepare you for future Advanced Placement tests. I took into consideration the need for students to have a break and tried to respect that need while still providing a meaningful way for students to continue to practice their reading and analysis skills.

In addition to this book, you may obtain the following books, which we will read throughout the semester:

- *The Narrative of the Life of Frederick Douglass* by Frederick Douglass
- *The Odyssey* by Homer, the Emily Wilson translation
- *Jane Eyre* by Charlotte Brönte
- We will also be reading *A Lesson Before Dying* by Ernest Gaines, which will be provided by the library.

I am not worried about the addition or the publisher. In addition to these books, you will need:

- A three-ring binder
- 1 pack of index cards
- Highlighters
- Pencils/Pens (I do not care as to color of ink)
- Sticky notes (if this is your preferred way to annotate your books)

If you have any questions or concerns, do not hesitate to email me at [dniezak@stcharles.k12.la.us](mailto:dniezak@stcharles.k12.la.us). The assignment can also be found on the Google Classroom website. I check my email fairly often over the summer, so I will respond as quickly as I can.

Thank you and have a great summer,

D'Otta Sniezak  
Gifted English Teacher  
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