To: Incoming English 9 Honors Students
From: The English Department
Re: Summer Reading Assignment
Date: June 2020

Every student is required to have completed TWO TEXTS by the first day of class in September. You will be assessed on your reading, and the grades will count towards the first marking period.

- King Arthur and the Knights of the Round Table (Green—fiction)
  Based on Sir Thomas Malory’s Morte D’Arthur, this is a retelling of the story of the boy fated to be the “true-born King of Britain,” covering his glorious reign and his tragic, yet triumphant, passing.

- A Connecticut Yankee in King Arthur’s Court (Twain—satirical fiction)
  Nineteenth-century mechanic Hank Morgan suffers a blow to the head and wakes up in King Arthur's Court where he tries to introduce modern technology and political ideas to the inhabitants.

Since some of the reading is challenging, it is recommended that you give yourselves enough time to read carefully and thoughtfully.

USE POST-ITS TO ANNOTATE. In addition, PARTICIPATE IN GOOGLE DOC DISCUSSIONS (FOLLOW THE DIRECTIONS ON THE NEXT PAGE).

To help you pace your reading/manage your time and engage in good discussion, here is the reading schedule that should be followed:

King Arthur (finish reading and participate in GoogleDoc discussion by Friday, July 31st)

Connecticut Yankee (finish reading and participate in GoogleDoc discussion by Thursday, Sept 3rd)

OPTIONAL: If you are looking for additional recommendations for personal reading, consider the titles below. They are all wonderful reads!

- Long Way Down by Jason Reynolds
  Driven by the secrets and vengeance that mark his street culture, 15-year-old Will contemplates over the course of 60 psychologically suspenseful seconds whether or not he is going to murder the person who killed his brother.

- The Crossover by Kwame Alexander
  Fourteen-year-old twin basketball stars Josh and Jordan wrestle with highs and lows on and off the court as their father ignores his declining health.

- Farewell to Manzanar by Jeanne Wakatsuki Houston
  During WWii, a community called Manzanar was created in the high mountain desert country of California. Its purpose was to house thousands of Japanese Americans. Among them was the Wakatsuki family, who were ordered to leave their fishing business in Long Beach and take with them only the belongings they could carry.
While you are reading this summer, you will have an opportunity to reflect on the readings, post questions and share your insights with your classmates and your teacher (remember the guidelines for *Dignified Dialogue*). This will happen using a GoogleDoc.

**What is a GoogleDoc?**
It is an online document to which people are invited so that they can collaborate and share ideas.

**Getting Started:**
**Step 1**—Email Mrs. Papadopoulos at academicsforlife@gmail.com
Include the following message:

> Hi Mrs. Paps,
> This is your name. Here is my email address. I am taking the honors course.

**Step 2**—You will receive an “invitation” from Mrs. Papadopoulos to join a GoogleDoc. Click the link in the invitation, so that you can access the GoogleDoc.

*(NOTE: If these directions are confusing, please email Mrs. Papadopoulos for assistance.)*

**Step 3**—As you read your texts, you must access the GoogleDoc and post your contributions (follow the directions included in the GoogleDoc). You will be invited to a separate GoogleDoc for each novel which you are reading.

*(NOTE: Each time you complete a post, make sure to identify yourself—name and date. Log on early and follow the reading schedule so that you can benefit from the on-line discussions.)*

**Frequently Asked Questions:**
*When are these reading logs due?* As you read, take the time to complete your posts. Make sure that you complete your responses by the first full week of school.

*How do I access the GoogleDoc?* Besides access from the emailed invitation, you can also go to google.com and sign-in to your account.

*Who do I contact over the summer if I have questions?* You can email Mrs. Papadopoulos at academicsforlife@gmail.com