

Honors British Literature - Summer Reading 2024

Summer Reading Text and Supplies:

- *The Once and Future King* by T.H. White (ISBN: 978-0-441-02083-6)

- PLEASE order a physical copy, **not digital** because we will continue working with this text in class at the beginning of the course. (You will only be reading Books One and Three for this summer assignment. HOWEVER, again, you will need the book in class on the first day of school because we will continue working with the book, reading books two and four in class.)
- *The Once and Future King* is a classic British work about King Arthur and his Knights of the Round Table making it the perfect starting point for the Honors British Literature course.
- Discussions in class will focus on Arthur's education in Book 1: *The Sword in the Stone* and his reign in Book 3: *The Ill-Made Knight* which also introduces Lancelot and his impact on Arthur's kingdom. As students begin their senior year, we are focusing on the question of the kind of people they want to be as they move into the next stages of their lives.
- At-home discussion: Arthur's education prepares him to reign on the throne of Gramary (England), but it doesn't save him from all the challenges and temptations that he faces once he is king. What challenges and temptations will students face once they leave NRCA, and how can their responses shape their futures?

Guidelines and Suggestions:

- Give yourself ample time to complete the readings and assignments. Do not wait until the last minute to try to complete this assignment.
- Try mapping out your plan of action in a planner, calendar, or any source you can easily reference.
- If you find it difficult to focus, try listening to an audiobook version as you read along - this will make it harder for your mind to wander off. You can try sources like [Audible](#), [LibriVox | free public domain audiobooks](#), YouTube, or even your closest public library.
- As you plan, don't forget to include days when you will dedicate time to writing your assignment. You may complete the assignment as you are reading the book or after you have finished it in its entirety.

General Guidelines:

- All responses are to be typed in Word in MLA format.
- Feel free to use headings to make clear separations between parts of the assignment.
- We will submit these through TurnItIn on the first day of class, so everything should be in one document.

Book One: *The Sword in the Stone* Assignment:

- Book One: *The Sword in the Stone* portrays Arthur as a boy learning lessons with Merlin the magician.
- Choose 5 lessons that Arthur learns, and for each of those lessons, complete the following:
 - Clearly state the lesson using complete sentences.
 - Provide a quote from the text that supports your understanding of the lesson. Be sure to include the page number.
 - State a clear explanation that draws a connection between the quote and the lesson.

Book Three: *The Ill-Made Knight* Assignment:

- FIRST, read O&FK Book Three.
- SECOND, research the Knight's Code of Chivalry or the Quest for the Holy Grail.
- THIRD, write an essay explaining the characteristics of the code or the Grail and its parallel to the Christian journey and identifying how characters in Book Three are impacted by the elements of either the code or the Quest for the Holy Grail.
- Make sure to include a Works Cited page for any sources used during your research.
- DO NOT USE generative AI assistance such as ChatGPT or Grammarly in completing this assignment.
- Any help you need with MLA format can be found here:
https://owl.purdue.edu/owl/research_and_citation/mla_style/mla_formatting_and_style_guide/index.html

Due Date:

This book and the assignments are due on the very first day of class. Five points will be deducted for each day they are late.

****See the attached rubric below.**

If you have any questions regarding the assignment, email me over the summer at alinton@nrcaknights.com.

Have a lovely summer and enjoy your reading!

Name: _____

Grading Legend:		
Lesson:	2 points - clearly states the lesson	
Quote:	3 points - quote is clearly identified and relevant	
Explanation:	5 points - is clear and draws a clear connection between the quote and lesson	

Activity One: Lessons on Education from O&FK Book 1: *The Sword in the Stone*

Lesson One Identified:	_____/ 2	
Quote:	_____/ 3	
Explanation:	_____/ 5	_____/ 10
Lesson Two Identified:	_____/ 2	
Quote:	_____/ 3	
Explanation:	_____/ 5	_____/ 10
Lesson Three Identified:	_____/ 2	
Quote:	_____/ 3	
Explanation:	_____/ 5	_____/ 10
Lesson Four Identified:	_____/ 2	
Quote:	_____/ 3	
Explanation:	_____/ 5	_____/ 10
Lesson Five Identified:	_____/ 2	
Quote:	_____/ 3	
Explanation:	_____/ 5	_____/ 10
Total Points (50)		_____/ 50

Activity Two: FIRST, read O&FK Book 3. SECOND, research the Knight’s Code of Chivalry or the Quest for the Holy Grail. Write an essay explaining the characteristics of the code or the Grail and its parallel to the Christian journey.

Intro paragraph which identifies the characteristics of either the code of chivalry OR the Holy Grail, states the parallel to the Christian moral code/life, and includes a strong thesis:	_____/ 5
Paragraph One: fully explain the characteristics and how they’re demonstrated in Book Three:	_____/ 15
Paragraph Two: fully explains the parallel to the Christian’s moral code/life and how it is demonstrated in the life of characters from Book 3:	_____/ 15
Correctly formatted Works Cited page:	_____/ 10
MLA format; Works Cited; Followed directions	_____/ 5
Total points:	_____/ 50

Grade total:

Assignment 1 _____/ 50
 Assignment 2 _____/ 50
 Total Points (Test) _____/ 100