

**Flower Mound High School
Summer Reading Project
English I LEAP Pre-AP 2009-2010
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Students enrolled in English I LEAP Pre-AP are required to read and study two pieces of literature throughout the summer. Please follow the directions on how to complete the assignment.

You must read:

- *October Sky* by Homer Hickam, Jr.

Choose one of the following (make sure you give yourself time for a change if you decide you don't like the one you chose first):

- *Day in the Life of Ivan Denisovitch* by Aleksandr Solzhenitsyn
- *Fahrenheit 451* by Ray Bradbury
- *The Bean Trees* by Barbara Kingsolver
- *When the Legends Die* by Hal Borland
- *The Joy Luck Club* by Amy Tan

If you cannot obtain your own copy of either novel, please contact me either at the phone number or the email address listed above **before school is out**.

The beginning of this school year is going to start out a little differently than normal. I will be gone the first 4 weeks of school on maternity leave. I will return on Monday, September 21st. Because of this, the normal due date for the summer reading will not be the first day of school, it will be the day I return to school. That being said, I highly advise you not to wait until after school starts to complete the reading. You will then not only have the summer reading for my class, but you will also have other work for my class, as well as work for your other four classes.

I strongly recommend you complete novel notes as preparation for class discussion and the tests you will take the week I return to school. The novel notes will be due at the end of the first week of school. An instruction page is attached that might clarify the idea of novel notes. If you have questions, feel free to email me, but know that I WILL NOT CHECK EMAIL EVERY DAY. Be patient. I'll get to you as soon as I can.

Remember that AP/Pre-AP students do more than is required. They come to class prepared for discussion, ready to THINK.

Getting an early start on your reading is recommended in case you run into problems; however, please review the novels before the beginning of the school year in order to refresh your memory.

Have a great summer!

Format for Novel Notes

Use 5 x 8 index cards and include the following elements:

One:

Your Graduation Year	
Your Name	
Title of Work (year published)	Author's Nationality/Key Info
Setting(s):	Genre:
Characters:	
Point of View/Structure/Style:	
Symbols: (note that that's plural – and should include the meanings of the symbols)	
Themes: (note this is plural – should each be a complete sentence, independent of the literary work! A theme is not the topic or subject and cannot be stated in one word)	
Allusions: (a reference to a statement, person, place, event, or thing known from literature, history, religion, myth, politics, or some other field of knowledge)	

Two (or back):

Summary of work:
(Make sure it's complete! Remember, this is to help you to study for the AP test; a weak summary will be no help to you later.)

Three (or 2nd card):

Meaningful Quotations (a minimum of 5):

Here are some helpful ideas to keep in mind (other than what you are already noting on the cards) while reading each of the novels:

- In each of the novels, the protagonists share many of the same qualities and characteristics. Be prepared to discuss the similarities.
- In each of the novels, the cultural/ethnic aspect plays a huge role in the characters' lives. Be prepared to discuss how culture plays a part in the lives of the characters.
- All of these novels are thematically related in some form or fashion. Be prepared to discuss which of the themes within the novels are related to one another.