

Sella--Summer Reading Assignment--English I Honors

Tuesdays with Morrie--by Mitch Albom

To Kill a Mockingbird--Harper Lee

In addition to reading your two summer reading books, you will also complete two assignments that go along with the novel. For the novel, *Tuesdays with Morrie*, you will be creating a soundtrack and for *To Kill a Mockingbird* you will create a "Close Reading Log." Both assignments will need to be typed in Google Docs in order to be turned in on turnitin.com during the first week of school.

Soundtrack for *Tuesdays with Morrie*--While reading, think carefully about the characters and themes present in the book. You will be considering these as you select at least 10 songs for a soundtrack for the text. No two songs can be from the same artist, and you should strive to have songs from a variety of genres.

Your soundtrack will include at least one song that relates to:

1. THREE important events from the book
2. TWO different characters
3. TWO of the Tuesday Topics
4. ONE song that defines Mitch and Morrie's relationship
5. ONE theme (theme must be more than just one word)
6. ONE of your choice (symbol, conflict, resolution, quote, an additional event, theme or character, etc)

For each song selection:

1. Title line should include the song title, artist and element (character name, event, etc)
2. Explanation: Beneath the title line, describe the character, event, theme, etc. and how it relates to the song. Why did you choose this song for this element of the novel? Explain how the song/lyrics connect to, reveal or enhance your description of the character, event or theme. Back your claim with evidence from the book (quote, passage, event). If there are certain lyrics that led you to associate the song to the element then be sure to note those specific lyrics.

Close Reading Log for *To Kill a Mockingbird*--As you read the novel you will complete a log of your "close reading notes." Below is what you should be looking for as you "close

read.” The questions listed are simply a guide to what you should be looking for. You must answer AT LEAST TWO of the questions listed for each category in bold. There will be a completed “Close Reading Log” for the following sections:

Chapters 1-6 Chapters 17-22

Chapters 7-11 Chapters 23-27

Chapters 12-16 Chapters 28-31

*Remember: You will need to type the logs in Google Docs in order to have a digital copy ready to be turned in on turnitin.com during the first week of school.

What to Look for When Close Reading

Setting-- when and where is the event occurring? Could there be any symbolic significance to the author's choice of setting? What might the purpose be for this setting? Did the setting change? What is the significance of the change?

Action/Details-- What is occurring in the passage? Why did the author choose those particular actions? Any strong quotes that help understand the actions/details. Events that help back up what you believe the theme might be.

Characters—How were certain characters impacted by the above actions/details? What type of character are they? How were they developed throughout the passage? How did they change? Did they change? A quote or action that helps define each character. How you feel about the character's personality and events that back that up.

Conflict—Internal/External? Explain. Man vs. Self/Man/Society/Nature? Explain. What is the conflict and how was it caused?

Tone-- What is the author's attitude toward the subject? What does that suggest about the author? the topic? Has the tone changed since the previous section? A quote that helps back up your claim of what the tone might be.

Mood-- The atmosphere, feeling or vibe a writer creates through their writing and details selected. Ex. A story taking place at night on Halloween creates a dark and scary mood. A quote that helps back up your claim of what the mood might be. How did the author make you feel while reading? Has the mood changed since the last section?

Imagery—Note any use of great imagery/detailed/descriptive language and how does this affect the reader. Did the imagery help set the tone/mood/setting? Did it make it confusing or more difficult?

Language (Tropes)—Any uses of figurative language. Metaphors, similes, symbolism, etc. Write down the quote and explain how it may have impacted a character or how it may have impacted the reader. Why might the author have chosen to use the trope in that instance? Was the author successful? How did the author's writing make you feel?

Time-- How much time elapses? How is the passage of time (if any) depicted? How is it significant to the text?

Theme-- What message is the author trying to convey? What lesson is being taught?