

Dear Incoming freshman of 2019-2020,

This is the 9th grade Summer Assignment. It is the expectation you attain a copy of the summer novel and complete the assignment before the new school year. The reading of the summer novel will be necessary to complete multiple activities, lessons, and assessments throughout the first quarter.



Read *Of Mice and Men* by John Steinbeck. Then, write an essay explaining how the author uses conflict to reveal the theme and tone of the novel.

A few helpful notes to help you organize and structure and develop your paper: **theme**, or the relationship between a text and the human experience, is often revealed through a tension or conflict between two forces in a work of fiction. **Tone** is the writer's or speaker's attitude toward a subject, character, or audience. It is conveyed through the author's use of diction, imagery, details, figurative language, and syntax.

There are many themes developed throughout the novel, so essays will vary from student to student.

Next, the final paper must be typed and printed in MLA format. MLA format includes the following components:

- Double-spaced
- 12-point Times New Roman
- Last name, page number in the right-hand corner
- 1 inch margins on all sides
- In left hand corner
 - Your name
 - Date: first day of school
 - Subject: English 9
- A title page is **not** required
- If you are confused, use Purdue Owl MLA online! http://bit.ly/RHS_OWL_MLA

GET A HEAD START! GET YOUR ENGLISH MATERIALS NOW!

- Highlighters
- 2-3-inch ring binder
- College ruled paper
- Blue or black ink pens
- Different colored ink pens (at least 5 colors)
- Index cards
- Sticky notes
- Notebook **ONLY** for English
- Dividers