




English IV Honors Pre-Course Required Reading Journal

Module: Introduction

Activity: Pre-Course Reading Assignment

Students who are seeking Honors credit for this course have a pre-course reading assignment to complete and submit by the first module. Information about the assignment is posted on the Student Sign-in page, and you should have received an email about the assignment prior to beginning the course. You should be ready to submit your Reader's Journal. If you have any questions about the assignment, contact your instructor immediately by email or phone.

What do I have to do for this assignment?

1. Obtain a copy of the novel, ***Rocket Boys***, by Homer Hickam. You may find a copy at your local library, local bookstore, used bookstore, or by ordering on-line through <http://www.Amazon.com> or <http://www.barnesandnoble.com>.
2. As you read, create a Reader's Journal. An "A" Reader's Journal includes the following:
 - At least 10 journal entries, each a half page in length.
 - Entries which "go beyond" the plot and show analytic thinking.
 - Discussion of the **Characterization** of at least two characters.
 - Entries which identify choices made by the protagonist and the resulting consequences.
 - **Entries which span the entire** novel from beginning to end.
 - Each entry is dated and includes page numbers and/or chapter titles.

Characterization is the method used by a writer to develop a character. The method includes

- showing the character's appearance
 - displaying the character's actions
 - revealing the character's thoughts
 - letting the character speak
 - getting the reactions of others.
3. Send your Reader's Journal to your Instructor.
 - If you have written your journals on paper, mail your work to your instructor.
 - If you have typed your Reader's Journal using a word processing program

such as Microsoft Word or some other program, submit it electronically as an attachment to **assignment 0.06 Honors Pre-Course Reading** .

- See “How do I submit an assignment” in the Course Information area for specific directions on attaching files.

Turn in all parts of the assignment together. Keep a copy for your portfolio.

Rubric for Reader's Log		
Grade	Completeness	Content
Excellent A	There are at least 10 complete entries of a half page or more, which span the book from beginning to end. Each entry includes the date and page numbers to which it refers	Responses are thoughtful and well-developed. Most entries show extension of thinking. For instance, instead of just summarizing the book, you may compare what is happening in the book to other similar events or you may make some personal observations about the events in the book itself.
Very Good B	There are at least 9 complete entries, which span the book from beginning to end. Each entry includes the date and page numbers to which it refers.	Responses are thoughtful and well-developed. A "B" response may summarize more and show extension of thinking less than "A" responses; although, there are many instances of your opinion.
Satisfactory C	There are at least 8 complete entries, which span the book from beginning to end. Each entry includes the date and page numbers to which it refers	Responses are generally thoughtful and well-developed; although, they will not be as lengthy as "A" or "B" responses. While summarizing is most often used, there are still many examples of your own extension of thinking regarding the novel



© Unless otherwise noted,
copyright Florida Virtual School,
1999. Updated 2003.

Home

