

9th grade Pre-IB  
 Summer Reading  
 SY 2016

**I will be checking my email periodically this summer to respond to inquiries. Please email me with any questions or further information needed: [esnedeker@gstarschool.org](mailto:esnedeker@gstarschool.org)**  
**-Emily Snedeker, IB English**

Assignments may be handwritten in only blue or black ink, or pencil.

Assignments may be typed using only Times New Roman 12 pt font.

Novel titles should be italicized. Section/Assignment titles may be bold, but otherwise text should not be underlined, italicized, or bold. Please type name in the upper left hand corner with first and last name.

### **Required Texts:**

*To Kill a Mockingbird*- Harper Lee                      **Assignment attached**

\*\*\*\*\*All books can be purchased very inexpensively at amazon.com or thriftbooks.com and may be found at the public library.

### **Suggested Texts:**

*Animal Farm*- George Orwell

*Lord of the Flies*- William Goulding

*Their Eyes Were Watching God*-Zora Neale Hurston

*Catcher in the Rye*- J.D. Salinger

*Of Mice and Men*- John Steinbeck

*Flowers for Algernon*- Daniel Keyes

*The Bean Trees*- Barbara Kingsolver

*The Old Man and the Sea*- Ernest Hemingway

*The House on Mango Street*- Sandra Cisneros

*I know Why the Caged Bird Sings*- Maya Angelou

**One of the best ways to prepare students for the IB Programme is to encourage exposure to literature. Reading a wide variety of texts has been proven to improve students' writing, vocabulary, SAT/ACT test scores, and overall cognition. The above titles are not required; however, if read, students may receive supplementary points for submitting the following:**

- 1. a list of characters,**
- 2. a memorable/favorite/significant passage (should not be quoted, simply give context and 2-4 sentences explaining why the passage was chosen),**
- 3. a thorough summary of the book. 2-3 paragraphs.**

*To Kill a Mockingbird***Harper Lee**

## Summer Reading Assignment

You will submit this assignment shortly after school begins and they will also be uploaded to Turnitin.com after school begins (**so make sure to save your work**). This Web site will check your answers for originality, meaning your own thoughts and writing and not copied from the internet or a classmate. All page numbers here refer both to a Warner Books edition of this novel and to a Grand Central Publishing edition of this novel. Page numbers in this document are expressed as “p.A/p.B.” The “A” number is from a Warner Books copy. The “B” number is from a Grand Central Publishing copy. • Here's an example: “pp. 5-6/p. 6”. In this example “pp. 5-6” refers to the Warner Books edition, and “p. 6” refers to the Grand Central Publishing edition. Your page numbers may be different.

Read the book. Many students believe that watching a movie version of a book is the same as reading the book. This is not correct. The movie version of *To Kill a Mockingbird* differs in significant ways from the novel. All assignments on this novel are based on close readings from the book, as well, and actually reading the book will give the student a head start.

Questions should be found on the next page.

Consider the following for questions 1, 2, and 3:

*In Chapter 1, pp. 5-6/p. 6, the narrator notes, "But it was a time of vague optimism for some of the people: Maycomb County had recently been told that it had nothing to fear but fear itself."*

- Who in history said, "The only thing we have to fear is fear itself"?
- What was the situation in which it was said?
- Given what you have learned about this quotation, estimate the year it is in the novel.
- In Chapter 10, p. 90/p. 119, Miss Maudie says, "Mockingbirds don't do one thing but make music for us to enjoy. They don't eat up people's gardens, don't nest in corncribs, they don't do one thing but sing their hearts out for us. That's why it's a sin to kill a mockingbird." This quotation (and several more like it) explains an important theme of this novel. (A theme is the writer's message about life.) Write this theme in your own words. Do not refer to mockingbirds because the statement above is just a metaphor for humans.
- In Chapter 10, p. 98/p. 130, after Atticus shoots a mad dog, Miss Maudie explains why Atticus, the best shot in the county, had not shot a gun in many years: "I guess he decided he wouldn't shoot till he had to...." What does Miss Maudie's remark tell the reader about Atticus? (This is making an inference.)
- In Chapter 10, p. 99/p. 131, after Atticus shoots the mad dog, Jem says, "Atticus is a gentleman, just like me." What does this quotation tell the reader about Jem's attitude toward his father?
- In Chapter 11, p. 112/p. 149, Atticus gives his idea of courage: "It's when you know you're licked before you begin but you begin anyway and you see it through no matter what. You rarely win, but sometimes you do." Do you agree with this?
- Closely read Chapter 15 and briefly summarize what happens here.
- Summarize Miss Gates' lecture on democracy in the classroom and compare that to her remark to Miss Crawford outside the courtroom (Chapter 26).
- Carefully read Chapter 30. Briefly summarize the argument between Atticus and Sheriff Tate. This chapter is tricky and a little hard to understand; you will need to make inferences and know the characters well. You may need to read it more than once to understand it.
- At one point in Chapter 30 (p. 275/p. 369), Atticus "moved with the same slowness that night in front of the jail, when I thought it took him forever to fold his newspaper and toss it into his chair." Later in this same chapter (p. 276)/p. 370), Atticus "got up and walked across the porch into the shadows" and "his youthful step had returned." Thoroughly explain this change in Atticus.
- Carefully read Chapter 31. On page 279/p. 374, the narrator notes, "Atticus was right. One time he said you never really know a man until you stand in his shoes and walk around in them." What event(s) on that page and on the previous one or two pages leads the narrator to that conclusion?
- In Chapter 31, Scout lists the things Boo has given her and Jem. List those items and explain Scout's thoughts about Boo's gifts.
- In Chapter 31, Scout says of a character in *The Gray Ghost*: "Atticus, he was real nice...." Atticus responds, "Most people are Scout, when you finally see them." To whom is Atticus referring? Who does Jim discover to be nice after he gets to know him? Explain your answer thoroughly.