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ENGLISH 4

Required Summer 2020 Reading Assignment

Due Date: Monday, August 17, 2020 (First full day of school)

Point Value: 50 points (Formative Assessment category)

***5% deduction per day for late work**

Welcome to English 4 (Literary Criticism)! We look forward to a year of learning and growth with you. For your summer reading assignment, you will need to purchase ONE of the books below. We will be using this book during the first few weeks of class, so plan on bringing it with you on the first day of school.

1. *The Accusation: Forbidden Stories from Inside North Korea* by Bandi

2. *Escape from Camp Fourteen: One Man's Remarkable Odyssey from North Korea to Freedom in the West*
by Blaine Harden

The Accusation is a revelatory work of fiction that exposes the truth of the North Korean regime. Set during the period of Kim Jong-Il's leadership, the seven stories that make up *The Accusation* throw light on different aspects of life in this most bizarre and horrifying of dictatorships.

Escape from Camp Fourteen is shocking true story of one of the few people born in a North Korean political prison to have escaped and survived.

✓ This assignment **must be typed in size 12 Times New Roman font, double-spaced, with 1" margins.**

Part One (30 points)

Written Essay

Your essay should be about 500 words long (2 double-spaced pages, using size 12 Times New Roman font with 1-inch margins). Include a brief introduction paragraph at the beginning, at least three body paragraphs, and a conclusion at the end. Each body paragraph should have at least one quote from the book, which means there should be at least three quotes in your essay. Your essay should answer the following questions:

- What was the theme of the book? (See below for clarification.)
- The book falls under the category of protest literature. Explain how this serves to protest against the North Korean regime. Why did the author write this book?
- Which of the chapters or short stories was your favorite and why?
- What is one life lesson you learned from this book?
- To whom would you recommend this book? (What type of person would enjoy it?)

What is **Theme**?

Think about a major theme that is represented in the novel. Once you have selected your theme, explain how this theme evolves within the novel. Your response should be at least one paragraph (at least 5 sentences), and it should be supported with specific information from the text. In other words, use specific examples to establish how the author communicates this theme to the audience.

Help for evaluating the theme of a literary work:

Themes help readers answer the question: What does a story express about the universal human experience?

Every story has at least one theme. A theme is a revelation shown through the characters' struggles and triumphs about life. A theme in a short story may occasionally be revealed in a direct sentence through a character's thought or declaration, but most often, a reader must infer the theme of the work after considerable thought.

How does a reader infer a theme from a story? Always ask questions as you read:

- Why is this situation included in the story?
- What is the main idea about this situation? Does it show fear? Or love? Or change? Or strength?
- Is this a central conflict throughout the story or in just one situation?
- Why is this character important? Why is this symbol important?
- What are the changes from the beginning to the end of the story?

Part Two (20 points)

Reading Journal

- Choose FOUR chapters or short stories from the book for which you will write journal entries. Each journal entry should be about one paragraph of at least six sentences in length.
- Arrange your entries by the title of the chapter or short story.
- Label each entry with the page number(s) that inspires the thought.
- Your notes/entries should NOT center on what happens in the story, (i.e. plot), but instead they should focus on deeper connections such as:
 - Ideas that the reading inspires or makes you think about
 - Connections that you can make to other books, stories, or culture
 - Thoughts regarding what is happening to the character(s) - their actions, their words, their emotions
 - The language – the tone, the word choice, literary devices you notice, the way the author writes
 - Culture connections – thoughts on how the play comments on society
 - Patterns in either the language or the concepts (or both)

Part Three (Podcast)—First week of school

During the first week of school, you will use your essay and reading journals to create a script for your podcast on Flipgrid that will be 2-3 minutes in length. You will receive further instructions on how to do this during our first days in school.

In the meantime, just for fun (it WILL help you when you have to create your own podcast!) please sample the following podcasts for young adult book lovers this summer:

- Hey YA
- Books and Boba
- All the Books
- The Librarian is In
- Adventures in YA
- The Split

Written Essay Grading Rubric

Grade: _____/30

Writing Expectations	Not Yet (needs evidence of writing trait)	Emerging (shows some evidence of writing trait)	Developing (shows understanding of writing trait; shows some evidence of acceptable use of writing trait)	Effective (shows solid understanding of writing trait; shows sophisticated use of writing trait)
<p>Content:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ The writing is logical and clear. ○ The student’s writing indicates a clear, thorough insight and apt observations. ○ The student recognizes patterns and complex themes at work in the text. ○ Textual evidence (quotes from the novel) should be used to support ideas. 	1 - 4	5 - 6	7 - 8	9 - 10
<p>Structure:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Each paragraph should be logically organized (by topic or chronologically). 	1	2	3	4 - 5
<p>Style:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ The style should be engaging and professional. ○ Transitions and sentence structure should be clear and smooth. ○ Your voice as a writer should be natural, authentic, and credible. ○ Diction should be intentional and professional. 	1	2	3	4 - 5
<p>GPS:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ The grammar, punctuation, and spelling should be consistent with standard academic English writing. 	1	2	3	4 - 5
<p>Presentation:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ This assignment must be typed in size 12 Times New Roman font, double-spaced, with 1” margins. ○ The student’s name and the title and author of the novel are at the top of the page. 	1	2	3	4 - 5

Reading Journal Rubric: 20 points

Each chapter or short story is worth 5 points.

<p>FOUR chapters or short stories. Be sure to indicate the TITLE of the chapter or short story.</p>	<p>FOUR paragraphs—each at least six sentences in length.</p> <p>Each sentence address a thought in the column to the right → →</p>	<ol style="list-style-type: none">1. Ideas that the reading inspires or makes you think about2. Connections that you can make to other books, stories, or culture3. Thoughts regarding what is happening to the character(s) - their actions, their words, their emotions4. The language – the tone, the word choice, literary devices you notice, the way the author writes5. Culture connections – thoughts on how the play comments on society6. Patterns in either the language or the concepts (or both)
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