

### AP Language & Composition Summer Reading Assignment

St. Bernard High School is committed to its belief in the importance of reading in the intellectual development of the student. For this reason, we supplement the regular English curricula with required summer reading. All students must have the following assignment completed for the first day of school. Assignments are to be submitted to your English teacher for grading. This will be an important part of your first semester's grade. We hope that you will enjoy and be challenged by the books you read. Your English teacher looks forward to essays and children's book.

You must read *The Grapes of Wrath* by John Steinbeck, *Black Elk Speaks* by John G. Neihardt AND *The Adventures of Huckleberry Finn* by Mark Twain

#### **Children's Book for *Black Elk Speaks***

Students must create a children's book for the novel explaining the life of the Sioux peoples. The book must meet the following requirements:

- A cover page with a proper MLA heading.
- Each page will have 3-4 sentences explaining the life of the Sioux peoples in language that can be understood by a child. Spelling and grammar count.
- Each page must have an illustration to accompany the writing.
- The concept of what it means to be Native American must be addressed at some point in your book.
- MLA works cited.

#### **Essays for *The Grapes of Wrath* and *The Adventures of Huckleberry Finn***

Students must write an essay for each book on three of the following elements: Plot, Theme, Setting, Conflict, Symbolism, or Character Portrayal. In your essay mention the three elements in the first paragraph and develop those ideas in the body paragraphs. The essays must also meet the following requirements:

- A traditional five paragraph essay.
- A cover page with a proper MLA heading.
- Essays must be word processed and double spaced.
- MLA works cited.

**Each of the above assignments is worth 100 points a piece.**

**\*\*\*Students will also be required to submit short papers weekly (starting the first week of July) via blog-mail during the summer in response to the posted topic. The blog can be found at <http://msorourkesclassroom.blogspot.com>.\*\*\***

**The blog will be worth 25 points per week.**

**Additionally, be prepared for a test on each book during the first two weeks of classes. Students must complete the summer assignments in order to take the tests.**

***Please be aware that in your "AP Contract" it states: "I am aware that AP and Honors courses will require SUMMMER HOMEWORK, due the first day of school, which will be included in my grade. Failure to complete Summer Homework may result in my removal from the class."***