

Dear 8th Grade Student,

Welcome to Eighth Grade Honors English Language Arts. As the Eighth Grade Honors Language Arts team, we are excited that you chose to enroll in this class. We know we are all looking forward to summer and doing whatever we want all day long! However, during the summer, we want you to participate in one of life's most enjoyable activities—reading!



Being in an Honors class, you will have an opportunity to read many books throughout the year. That being said, it is very important for us to make sure you are keeping yourself mentally fit during the summer.

This summer, you will be completing several informational text readings. All of the summer reading texts, videos, and discussion boards will be found on CANVAS. You will be able to access this information beginning May 31st. On the attached sheet, you will find the information needed to access these materials.

Our theme for first quarter is FINDING YOUR VOICE. As you read through the various assigned articles and stories, look for ways individuals find their voices. Think about your own voice. Have you found it yet? Are you still looking for and developing it?

One of our goals for the 2018–2019 school year is to encourage you to make reading not only a school–time activity, but also a lifetime pleasure. We believe this informational reading experience will do just that. Reading skills improve only by reading more. Lifetime readers perform better in school than those who do not read for pleasure. Research indicates that students who read on a daily basis build strong spelling skills and broaden their vocabulary. Writing ability also improves with reading. These skills reach far beyond the English classroom, and that is why we consider the benefits of independent reading to be both valid and valuable.

Please look over the information about your summer reading. Follow the instructions carefully. It is important to note that upon receiving this letter, you are committing to complete the summer reading by the due date (FRIDAY, AUGUST 31st). Since this is an assessment that you have all summer to complete, submissions after that date may not be accepted.

Happy Reading,
8th grade honors teachers

Ms. Serrine (Samantha.Serrine@canyonsdistrict.org)

Ms. Hamilton (Aarica.Hamilton@canyonsdistrict.org)

* Please email all concerns to Ms. Serrine for now since Ms. Hamilton will be new, and her email may not be completely ready. *