

English IV Prep Summer Reading Assignment

Students must read **ONE** of the following works, and complete the attached assignment. Students should use their selected work as a reference when they complete the Novel Knowledge Study Guide. They will be quizzed on the book they have chosen during the third week of the fall semester.

- ❖ *Things Fall Apart* by Chinua Achebe: a novel telling of the life of Okonkwo, a tribal leader in Nigeria, as his village comes in contact with white missionaries and ... things fall apart.
- ❖ *Blink* by Malcolm Gladwell: a non-fiction work that focuses on split-second decisions and their power, using stories about heart attack triage, speed dating, and selling cars to stress Gladwell's message.
- ❖ *The Hitchhiker's Guide to the Galaxy* by Douglas Adams: characters visit the legendary planet Magrathea, home to the now-collapsed planet-building industry, and meet a planetary coastline designer who was responsible for the fjords of Norway. Through recordings, he relates the story of a race of hyper-intelligent pan-dimensional beings who built a computer named Deep Thought to calculate the Answer to the Ultimate Question of Life, the Universe, and Everything.
- ❖ *And Then There Were None* by Agatha Christie: the most popular mystery of all time, in which ten guests are invited to an island mansion where murders begin happening that mirror a nursery rhyme.
- ❖ *All the Pretty Horses* by Cormac McCarthy: a western novel about a young man who decides to venture south to Mexico with his best friend to try and be cowboys, written by the author of *No Country for Old Men*.

Novel Knowledge Study Guide

Novel chosen: _____

Part I: SYNTAX

Use your selected novel to find examples of the following sentence structures, and write the sentences in the blanks on the right, including page numbers. WRITE LEGIBLY!

TYPE OF SENTENCE	EXAMPLE/SAMPLE	EXAMPLE FROM YOUR NOVEL
<u>Simple</u> – one independent clause	John opened the front door. (p. 125)	
<u>Compound</u> – more than one independent clause	John opened the front door, and he saw a burglar. (p.137)	
<u>Complex</u> – an independent clause and at least one dependent clause	When John entered the house, the dog started barking. (p. 189)	
<u>Compound-Complex</u> - more than one independent clause and at least one dependent clause	When John entered the house, the dog started barking, and the burglar ran out the back door. (p. 269)	
Declarative – makes a statement	The assignment was very easy. (p. 43)	
Exclamatory – expresses strong feelings	The girls were frightened by the eerie sounds in the woods and ran! (p. 78)	
Imperative – makes a command or request	Bring donuts tomorrow for the whole class. (p. 190)	
Interrogative – asks a question	Does John realize how dangerous it was to surprise a burglar? (p. 32)	

Part II: FIGURATIVE LANGUAGE

Use your selected novel to locate examples of the following types of figurative language, and complete the chart. WRITE LEGIBLY!

TYPE OF FIGURATIVE LANGUAGE	EXAMPLE/SAMPLE	YOUR EXAMPLE FROM NOVEL
<u>Simile</u>: comparison of two unlike things using like or as		
<u>Metaphor</u>: implied comparison of two unlike things		
<u>Personification</u>: gives human traits to non-human things		
<u>Hyperbole</u>: gross exaggeration		
<u>Alliteration</u>: repetition of consonant sounds at the beginnings of words		

Part III: THEME

A theme is a universal message or main idea that carries throughout the entire work. What is the idea, or lesson, your book’s author is conveying? How do you know? Cite text evidence to defend your premise. Write your response in complete sentences. WRITE LEGIBLY!
