



# First Academy Leesburg

English I Honors

Summer Reading Assignment 2016-2017

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I am truly excited to be joining the First Academy family this year. I look forward to meeting each of you and furthering your knowledge through reading and writing. As we will learn in class, God has given us a beautiful gift through the use of language. It can be very powerful as it helps to define feelings, culminate experiences, and develop relationships with those around us. We will work to build a classroom community that is rich in discussion and uplifting to one another. May we use this time of learning to be glorifying to God. I will be available through email this summer and will do my best to get back to you as soon as possible. Have a wonderful summer and I will see you this fall! ☺

As you work on your summer reading, use fully expressed ideas to finish your assignment. Your ideas should not be expressed in sentence fragments. **Assignments are due the first day of class.** Extended time will be given to those registering late.

## I. Assigned Books:

1. *The Hobbit* by J.R.R. Tolkien (ISBN: 0-547-92822-X) A fantasy novel of Bilbo Baggins' episodic quest and how it shapes his personal growth. The interesting creatures, valiant acts of heroism, and action-packed Battle of the Five Armies will not disappoint. Honors students will have an extra assignment to complete with this book.

## II. Assignment #1: Read your assigned book and complete a Reading Journal for your book.

1. Your journal will identify moments in the book that stand out to you as significant statements during your reading.
2. Please follow the format below.
  - a. You must *type* your journal.
  - b. Your reaction should be *at least* two to three sentences for each statement. Phrases or one-sentence responses will not be enough.
  - c. You will need to have 20 or more entries.
  - d. There are a few ways to approach this reading journal. You can either complete the journal "as you go," stopping your reading to complete the journal, OR (and my preferred method) you can highlight key passages as you read and THEN complete the journal once you're finished reading for the day. This allows you to keep focused on your reading without interrupting your train-of-thought.

\*Example quote taken from *Night*. Please do not use this in your own journal:

Page #	Chapter	Significant Statement	Your Reaction—Why is this quote significant? Why did it stand out to you? Did it challenge you to think differently? How? What questions does it raise for you?
xv	Intro.	The witness has forced himself to testify. For the youth of today, for the children who will be born tomorrow. He does not want his past to become their future.	This quote makes me think about how painful Wiesel's experience must have been if he had to force himself to write this book. It also makes me realize how important it was to him. He doesn't want another human to have to experience what he did.

IV. **Assignment #2:**

1. **English I** – Read your assigned book, and watch the first of *The Hobbit (An Unexpected Journey)* movies. It's available to stream on Amazon for around \$4. Once you have read your book, and viewed the movie, you will write a compare and contrast essay on the similarities and differences between the book and the movie.
  - a. You must *type* your essay.
  - b. The essay will need to be at least one page in MLA format.
  - c. 500 words or more
  - d. Please be cautious of your grammar, punctuation, and spelling.
  - e. This will be my first impression of your writing abilities and will help me gauge what we need to learn this year. Please do your best.