



ROSEMONT HIGH SCHOOL
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Elizabeth Vigil, Principal
Rebecca Siegert, LEAD Coordinator

June 5th, 2019

Dear LEAD Student,

Congratulations on being accepted into Rosemont High School's LEAD Program! The hard work and dedication you have put in throughout the last eight years of your education is admirable, and I look forward to being your English teacher. Throughout your ninth grade year, we will read a plethora of college-level works, both contemporary and classic, and each unit will require you to think critically, analyze deeply, and make connections between yourself, the text, and the world around you. Additionally, we will work on elements of comprehension, analysis, public speaking, and above all, writing. The work we accomplish during your freshman year will be demanding, and you should expect to have regular homework in addition to ongoing, outside assignments. By the end of the year, you will be prepared to continue on the Honors/AP track which will ultimately assist you in achieving your goals of being admitted to a 4-year university.

In order to be prepared to start the year, you are required to read one book and complete one assignment over the summer. The assignment is attached to this letter, and it is due on the third day of school, which is **Tuesday, September 3rd, 2019**. **No late assignments will be accepted for any reason**. Also, there will be a test on the book during the first week of school. If you have any questions about the assignments, please email me at Rebecca-Siegert@scusd.edu. Again, congratulations on being admitted to the LEAD program.

Sincerely, .

Rebecca Siegert
LEAD Program Coordinator

English 9 LEAD Summer Reading Assignment

You are required to read *Of Mice and Men* by John Steinbeck for your summer assignment. The book is available to be checked out with your current school ID at Rosemont's library (June 11th—June 13th between 12:30-2:00), checked out at a local library, or purchased at Barnes and Noble or online.

For the novel, you need to complete the following assignment:

- First, gather a pack of post-its (sticky notes) or bookmarks.
- Then, as you read, every time you encounter a particularly important, provocative, dramatic, surprising, or even disturbing passage, mark it with a post-it note and continue with your reading.
- When you have finished the novel, look at all those passages you selected and pick five quotes from throughout the novel and a sixth and most important that you consider the "Quote of the Book" according to the criteria listed below. By quote, I do not mean that it needs to be spoken dialogue between characters; it can be from the narrator as well. Your quotes must be at least one sentence long, but should not exceed three.
- Copy the quotes (including page numbers), and then write two paragraphs for each of the first five quotes:

Paragraph One for Each Quote:

This paragraph should explain how the quote/passage "fits" into the novel. Choose from the following questions to construct your explanation:

- How does the passage make the characters more interesting?
- How does the passage make the plot (story-line) more intense?
- How does the passage make the details of setting better, etc.?
- How does the passage make the book's theme (message or meaning) more clear?

Paragraph Two for Each Quote:

This paragraph should show you *reacting* to the passage as a reader. Your goal is to help a person who doesn't know you understand *why* you have selected this passage. To generate responses, consider using the following prompts or questions:

- Why does the passage impress, intrigue, horrify, or puzzle you?
- Why do you find the author's use of language appealing or powerful?
- How does the quote jump off the page as a great descriptive passage?
- Why does it prompt a strong response from you as you read it?
- Why does it present itself as so well-crafted that you just love the sound of it?
- Why is the language beautiful, descriptive, or graphic?
- Why is it particularly meaningful?
- Why is it a high point in the book?
- Why do you find yourself in agreement/disagreement with the ideas expressed?
- How does the passage remind you of a situation you have lived as well?
- Why does the passage make you laugh out loud or make you sad or make you something else?
- How does the author or the character raise intriguing questions or issues?
- How does the passage challenge or expand your thinking?

You are not limited to the above list of suggested prompts or questions, nor do you have to answer *all* of the above. But your responses to the passages should clearly explain *why* these passages mean something to you or *why* these quotes catch your attention.

The Final Paragraph: “The Quote of the Book”

Write this last paragraph to explain your choice for "The Quote of the Book." This should be that one passage or quote that captures the essence, “the true meaning,” of the novel for you, the reader. It cannot be one of your previous quotes. Explain exactly **HOW** this passage is the *one perfect quote* from the book. Give specific supporting details. This paragraph should be at least one-half page long.

Overall Assignment Guidelines

- Type all aspects of this assignment in MLA format. There is a guideline page for MLA format attached, and below is a sample of what your paper should look like
- Type each quote exactly as it appears in the book with the author’s name and page number, such as (Steinbeck 16), and put it in bold. Notice that there is no "p." or "pg."
- Then, type your paragraphs underneath each quote.
- Passages/quotes that you choose must be at least one, two, or three sentences long. Passages/quotes must be from throughout the entire novel, not just one section.
- Create each assignment separately.
- You do not need to start on a new page for each quote.

Student Last Name 1
Student Name
English 9 LEAD
September 3 rd , 2019
<i>Of Mice and Men</i> Summer Assignment
Quote #1: “Lennie dabbled his big paw in the water and wiggled his fingers so the water arose in little splashes” (Steinbeck 37).
Begin typing your first paragraph here. This paragraph needs to discuss how the quote fits into the story overall, such as what it explains about a character, what it reveals about the plot, etc. Aim for at least 5 well-written sentences for both paragraphs. .
Your second paragraph begins here. This paragraph needs to discuss why this quote jumped out to you out of all of the other lines you could have chosen. Use the prompts on the previous page to help you describe why you selected this quote.

MLA Paper Format General Set-up Guidelines in MS Word

Style: When you first open a document, make sure that the “Style” is set to “No Spacing”

Font: You need to use Times New Roman, size 12.

Margins: You must have one-inch margins on all sides; check this by going to “Page Layout”, then selecting “Margins”, then selecting “Normal”.

Header: Your header should include your last name and the page number. To set up:

- Go to the “Insert” tab
- Select “Page Number”
- Select “Top of the Page”
- Select the 3rd option that has the number all the way on the right
- Type your Last Name in front of the page number and a single space
- Select Close the “Header and Footer”
- OR, a shortcut for this step is double-clicking anywhere at the top of the document and typing your last name in front of the page number, then clicking off the document.

Spacing: Double space throughout the paper, including the heading with your name.

Title: There is no separate title page in MLA style. At the top left corner of page one, you need:

Your Name

Course Name and Number (English 9 LEAD)

Date (Due Date of Assignment)

The title of your paper (*Of Mice and Men* Summer Assignment) should be placed one line below the date in center of the paper. Do not underline, bold, or change font.

Indenting: Indent one tab (one half inch) for the first word of each paragraph.