

Summer Assignment for Rising Pre-IB Freshmen

1. **Read the three poems I have attached. Pick one to reflect on. Then, in a letter to Mrs. Vassey, introduce yourself.** This is your opportunity to allow me to get to know you as a student and as a young adult.
 - a. Please devote one paragraph to your strengths, preferences and needs in the classroom.
 - b. The next one should be an introduction to you as a young adult; you may discuss the same ideas as in the previous paragraph, but now pertaining to life and the world around you.
 - c. The final paragraph should creatively reflect on one of the poems. In your reflection, include the title and author; best line; some form of insight or connection. Please do NOT merely summarize the poem. Creatively discuss/display the impact the poem, a stanza, a line has on you.
 - d. If you would like to include a picture of yourself, it will certainly help me learn everyone's names quicker, but it is not required.
2. **Create an illustrated literary/poetic device chart for yourself of key literary and poetic devices we will be studying in 9th grade.** You should keep a copy in your office 365 account in a folder for Eng grade 9. If you were not in HCPS (Hillsborough County Public School), you will have to wait until school starts to create this account. You will more than likely add to the chart throughout the year; then build another layer of it as a rising sophomore. The list we will use is at the end of this document. **You should know up front that I work on a Microsoft product and all documents submitted as assignments should be either a PDF or a word doc: NOT a Pages document.**
3. **OPTIONAL:** This academic school year will be rigorous! Reading for pleasure during times of academic rigor provides mental relaxation, broadens knowledge, enhances vocabulary and language skills, promotes critical thinking, stimulates creativity, fosters empathy, and sustains a love for learning. It complements and enriches your academic pursuits, making you a more well-rounded and intellectually curious individual. I would love to see you build or continue this habit! **If you choose** to complete this assignment, select one of the novels from the Florida Teens Read list. When you finish the novel, create a "one pager" of the book you chose. I look forward to hearing about your choice! I am starting with *All My Rage*. I will be in a brand-new classroom this year and will create a "What we Read this Summer" bulletin board somewhere in the room. You may hand this to me in the first week of school. Again, this is **optional**. The "One Pager" directions and template are also attached.

Hello, Class of 2027! Welcome to Pre-IB English !!

This year is significant as you start your transition to life during high school, and I count it as a privilege to share this time with you. My hope is this class will go far beyond the requirements by Hillsborough County and the state of Florida but instead become a place where we cheer each other on as you navigate the first year of high school in the IB program.

We will spend a lot of time in this class reading a variety of texts- old, new, poetry, prose- and analyzing these texts with a literary focus. The reading and writing are the foundations of the class: we will also strive to become better thinkers, considering new thoughts and ideas that will help us grow. We will build the foundation that you will need to be successful in the IB HL Literature class that takes you through your junior and senior year.

I consider myself a lifelong learner, having spent 22 years in the English classroom here at Robinson High School! I am a creature of habit and thrive on organization and routines in the classroom. I work hard to create a space that fosters creativity and focuses on the foundations of IB English. We will spend the first few weeks putting systems in place to be successful, while getting to know each other.

Outside of the classroom I am somewhat of a South Tampa native, having lived and worked in this community for over thirty years. My parents met at Plant; we moved around the country, but I ended up back here to attend college at the University of South Florida. I love reading, working in my yard, and going to see bands play. I am kind and patient- I won "most understanding" at the IB Seniors banquet this year; however, excuses are the bricks of which monuments to nothing are built.

I am also happily married, and the mom of a highly active rising eighth grader. As a family, we enjoy fishing, boating and motocross- not necessarily in that order. #boymom. We also enjoy traveling to cooler climates over the summer, to visit family in Maine and Vermont.

Now it is your turn. I would like you to write a letter to me telling me about you. Here are three of my favorite poems; select one to reflect on and follow the directions in the assignment above.

["The Summer Day"](#)

["The Road Not Taken"](#)

["On Listening to Your Teacher Take Attendance"](#)

I look forward to sharing the year with you,

Mrs. Vassej

Buffey.vassej@hcps.net

Copy and paste the chart into a new document; use the website linked in the first box for your definitions and purpose/function of the device. Make sure your name is on it and save a copy until school starts.

https://literarydevices.net/	Definition	Purpose or function	Example, illustration, or image (one of the three) no need to cite pictures but should be school appropriate
Assonance			
Attitude			
Alliteration			
Anaphora			
Apostrophe			
Archetype			
Asyndeton			
Characterization (both types)			
Connotation			
Consonance			
Character (all seven types)			
Dramatic irony			
Denotation			
Diction			
Extended metaphor			
Foil			
Foreshadowing			
Free verse			
Figurative language			
Implied metaphor			
Imagery the first six types (skip organic)			
Irony all three types			
Juxtaposition			
Meiosis			

Metaphor			
Motif			
Memoir			
Mood			
Oxymoron			
Personification			
Prose			
Point of view			
polysyndeton			
Quest			
Repetition			
Rhetorical question			
Setting			
Simile			
Symbolism			
Syntax			
Tone			
Trope			

For the *OPTIONAL* reading assignment: check out the [Florida Teens Read](#) here. Select a novel of your choice, read it, enjoy it, and create a one-pager for it. Bring this to school the first day/week.



One Pager Directions

A one pager is a way to visually share key ideas and information from what you have learned. When you create a one pager, you are trying to use both visual symbols and important words to clearly and concisely share your most important takeaways with someone else.

For this one pager, I've provided you with a template.

Here's what it **MUST INCLUDE**:

- A border which somehow represents the key themes from what you have read
- An image in the upper left hand corner with a quotation woven into or around it. This image should somehow represent what you consider to be the most important symbol in the text so far.
- Images and/or doodled words in the upper right hand corner that represent the key characters from the text and perhaps how they are changing
- Images and quotations in the lower left hand corner that show the author's style of writing, and the power of the language that is used
- Images and/or words in the bottom right hand corner that show connections between the themes and ideas in the writing and what is going on in the world today.
- Three important quotations from the text
- Words and/or images that show the significance of the setting in some way

You may also add other symbols, drawings, and words that represent the reading as you wish.

