2019-2020

**English 10**

**Summer Assignment**

This assignment is intended to teach you to become a more alert and analytical reader, so it’s important that you complete the steps while you are reading and not afterwards when you may have forgotten some critical elements of the story. You may keep your work in a binder or folder. Your assignment must be typed with the proper heading. Please begin each new section on a separate piece of paper and please mark each new section clearly.

Choose one of the books listed below:

* *The Invisible Man* by Ralph Ellison
* *The Bluest Eye* by Toni Morrison
* *Black Boy* by Richard Wright
* *A Long Way Gone* by Ishmael Beah

**Part I: Vocabulary (20 Points)**
For your novel, record 20 unfamiliar or challenging words that appear in the text, noting the page number on which the word appears. Then provide a dictionary definition for each word, also providing the part of speech. Then, write a sentence explaining how knowing the definition of that word helps you understand what’s going on in the book. PLEASE NOTE: Writing that you already understand every word in the novel is not an appropriate response and will result in a zero for this section.

**Part II: Quotations/Key Passages (40 Points)**
Find 15 quotations or key passages that reflect an essential element of the novel. Copy each section word for word and include quotation marks and the speaker’s name (if it’s a direct quote). Then, explain the relevance or importance of the selected quotation. How does it relate to the work as a whole? Does it illustrate the novel’s theme, reveal character traits, or depict a plot twist? These quotes/key passages should reflect your reading of the entire novel.  In other words, your selected passages should reflect the entire novel, and should not be concentrated in any one section of the novel.  Be as specific as possible and be sure to fully explain your choice and reasoning.

**Part III: Historical Background and Context (20 Points)**
Using the Internet and other resources, locate information about when the novel was written. Include a three-paragraph, page-long minimum summary about the time period in which the novel was written, any information about the author of the novel, any awards the novel won, etc. Be sure to cite your sources.

**Part IV: Review (20 Points)**
Write a review of the novel based on a scale of 1-10. A rating of one would reflect that it’s among the worst books you’ve ever read, while a 10 would mean it was one of the greatest novels you’ve ever read and a 5 would mean it is average. Then explain and defend your choice with a multi-paragraph, page-long (bare minimum –feel free to write more) response. In your response, you can discuss positive and negative points, your interest level, the subject matter, and complexity. Think about questions such as: What type of students would/would not enjoy reading this novel? What does it offer a college-bound student? Would you read it again?

**Due date**: This assignment is due **the first day of class.** Points will be deducted for each day that the assignment is late.

***Plagiarism****: All work submitted should be your own.  Any student who submits any type of work or a key interpretive idea that is not his/her own is guilty of plagiarism and will receive a zero for the assignment, and your parents will be notified. Be honest in your work and have the confidence to value your own thoughts and opinions.*

**\*\*\*Don’t wait until the last minute to complete this assignment!**