

2010 SUMMER READING GRADE 10 Stoneham High School, Stoneham, MA

Welcome to tenth grade! Students will be evaluated on summer reading during the first few days. Students are encouraged to take notes to aid in reviewing their reading and for extra credit before taking scantron tests. See below for guidelines. *Books may be purchased at local bookstores, on-line, or borrowed from the Stoneham Public Library.*

HONORS - You are required to read the following **three** books. One will require an expository essay.

INTENSIVE - You are required to read **two** of the following three books.

COMPREHENSIVE – You are required to read **one** of the following three books.

1. *All Quiet on the Western Front* by Erich Maria Remarque - The story is told through the eyes of a common German soldier during World War I. This novel traces the terrible cost of war and the transformation of boys from youthful, enthusiastic soldiers to survivors of this nightmare.

2. *Warriors Don't Cry: A Searing Memoir of the Battle to Integrate Little Rock's Central High Schools* by Melba Beals– This is a non-fiction account of Melba's junior year at Central High School in 1957 in Arkansas. Her family suffered threats, personal attacks and even a murder attempt during the forced integration of black and white students. This memoir explains how they endured with faith, courage, strength and love.

3. *Into Thin Air: A Personal Account of the Mt. Everest Disaster* by Jon Krakauer. The author describes his 1996 trek to Mt. Everest, a disastrous expedition that claimed the lives of eight climbers and explains why and how he survived.

TRANSITIONAL – Read *The Sea of Monsters* by Rick Riordan. The magical borders of Camp Half-Blood are failing and Percy and his friends have just days to find the only magic item powerful to save the camp before it is overrun by monsters. As part of the quest, Percy must stage a daring rescue operation to save his old friend Grover, and he learns a terrible secret about his own family, which makes him question whether being the son of Poseidon is an honor or a curse. Fill out the Hero quest graphic organizer to bring in as your notes. It can be used with the exam.

TAKING NOTES: SUGGESTIONS

While you read, take notes on the following information. Your details can be bulleted, note format or complete sentences. You may write or type (and paste) on any size index cards or paper. Notes cannot be used on the exams, but complete notes can earn +5 points on the summer reading exam. **BRING THESE IN THE DAY OF THE EXAM.** Plan an index card or paragraph to fully discuss each topic below.

Character: Describe all major (and some minor) characters. For example, you may want to include the characters' personalities, appearances, how others treat them and how they treat others.

Conflicts: Explain the obstacles/problems facing the main character and how they were resolved.

Plot: Briefly summarize the plot in your own words. (10-15 sentences)

Setting: Include a vivid description of the main setting; remember to use descriptive adjectives.

Theme: What lesson/s does the author want the reader to come to understand?

