

Honors / Pre-IB English II Summer Assignment
2024-2025

I. Required readings & materials:

(Note: The texts and Post-It Notes are available through the Agoura High School Media Center.)

- *The Fellowship of the Ring* by J.R.R. Tolkien **ISBN-13:** 978-0547928210
- *Beowulf* translated by J.R.R. Tolkien **ISBN-13:** 978-0544570306
- Post-It Notes

II. You will complete the following over summer:

1. a careful reading of all assigned texts
2. flag and annotate meaningful character quotes, theme quotes, and other (see below)

The purpose of your quote gathering and annotating is to ensure your active engagement with the texts, thus facilitating productive and successful text-based learning activities once class is back in session.

Annotation Requirements

As you read, use Post-It Notes to bookmark and annotate quotes throughout the novels:

- Character
 - Look for passages that suggest the main character's motivations and development.
- Theme
 - Look for passages that reveal the authors' insights on the human condition. The following list can help you get started:
 - family dynamics (roles/conflict/connection)
 - social dynamics (insiders/outside, community, distribution of power)
 - leadership (power, effectiveness, abuse of)
 - honor (seeking it, attaining it, meaning)
 - sacrifice (types, purpose, meaning, results of)
 - friendship (characteristics, authenticity, types)
 - gender roles (compliance with or defiance of/impact on identity formation)
 - Etc.
- Other
 - ask questions, relate to characters, make connections to other texts, make connections to world, comment on author's style, word choice, and tone, etc.

III. You will complete the following once class is in session:

1. an objective test on each novel (test dates will be assigned on the first day of class)
2. a Socratic seminar (seminar date will be assigned on the first day of class)
3. an essay (essay date TBA)

You will bring your annotated novels to the first full day of class.

Please direct all questions about the summer assignment to Mrs. Davis at pdavis@lvusd.org or Ms. Olson at nolson@lvusd.org before August 1st.