

**English III Honors
Summer Book File**

You will analyze each novel that is read this year (including summer reading books), by creating a book analysis.

Each analysis will be typed in 12 point Arial or Times New Roman. The analysis must include all of the following numbered and kept in order.

This book file along with the others will be turned in on the first day of school, August 10.

Title

Author

Time Period in which the book is set

1. Author's life and times:

- a. What is going on in the Social Climate during this author's formative years?
- b. What was the political climate like?
- c. What were the major philosophical attitudes during this author's lifetime?

2. Theme and impact of the novel

What insight into society or human nature does this book offer? Research the impact this book might have had on the people/events/policies that developed after the book was written. Feel free to use Spark Notes, cliff Notes, Pink Monkey, Classic Notes, et. al. and similar sites to give you ideas, then choose ONE and focus your answers to the questions toward that one.

3. Book structure

- a. How is the book put together?
- b. What is the point of view? Does it change?
- c. What is the tone? Does it change?
- d. How does the structure enhance the theme?

4. Characters

Focus on the main characters and any minor characters that manage to have a huge impact even though they are simply alluded to or die early and are developed in flashback. Remember that authors develop characters through what they say, what they wear, what they look like, how they act, and what other's say about them.

- a. **Tie the characters to the theme.**
- b. **How does their characterization expand upon the theme?**

5. Symbols and motifs

- a. What symbols and motifs pop up on a regular basis?
- b. Are any colors mentioned multiple times? Numbers? Animals? Weather?
- c. Relate any symbolism or motifs to the theme of the book.

6. Ending

- a. Why does the novel end the way it does? Relate the ending to the overall meaning and purpose of the work.

7. Quotations

- a. Choose four short quotes of not more than three lines each and directly relate them to the theme of the book. Be sure to include enough background information about when, what, who, where and why so you can introduce the quote into your timed AP exam. These quotes will need to be memorized.

8. Settings

- a. How do the important settings support the main theme of the book?

9. Plot—write a short plot summary including the main events.