

Summer Reading Assessment

As a student at Plainfield High School, you have registered for the Honors English II course for the 2010-2011 school year. Although the idea of summer reading may seem to be a daunting task, it is imperative to continue to learn and grow as readers and writers. It is with this statement that I share this summer's assignment. It is requested that student's read:

The Things They Carried by Tim O'Brien
The Lovely Bones by Alice Sebold

On the next page you will see the requirement of the writing portion of the summer reading assignment. If you do not complete this assignment, you will not be allowed to take the honors level course and will be moved to CP English II.

If there are any questions or concerns about this assignment, please feel free to email me over the summer.

This assignment is due by the end of the first week of school. You should turn the assignment into the teacher listed on your schedule. If there is any confusion, you may hand it in to me and I will see that it reaches your assigned teacher.

Sincerely,

Mrs. Bethany (Wisniewski) Wagner
Bwagner287@yahoo.com

Directions: Answer **both** of the following questions to the best of your ability (therefore there will be two separate papers handed in). Use direct quotes from the text to support and prove your thoughts. DO NOT summarize the plot, you must show firsthand knowledge of the text. Ensure that your responses are organized with a clear introduction, body and conclusion. Do not forget to utilize the lessons learned about MLA format and citation during the past school year; all expectations remain the same.

1. Select a quote or short passage from **one** of the texts (no more than 10 lines) that you found particularly significant, profound or interesting. Write the ENTIRE quote at the top of your paper. Then in a well supported response discuss your interpretation of the quote, why *this* quote struck you the way it did, its importance to the rest of the story, and how the author's use of *these* words affected your experience with the text. Estimated length of two pages.
2. Identify the internal conflict(s) the main character or narrator struggles with throughout **each** story. Discuss the purpose of conflict (the problem the main character is facing) to show your individual understanding and then analyze the conflicts you have encountered. Does the character or narrator ever overcome this conflict? How or why not? Use specific details and quotes from the book to support your thoughts. Then discuss how each character's particular conflict is relevant to our society today (thus explaining why this piece should continue to be read). Estimated two pages in length.