



TRINITY HIGH SCHOOL ENGLISH DEPARTMENT

2011 Summer Reading Requirement for College Prep Seniors

To foster active reading and a love of literature, college prep seniors are required to read the following novel over the summer:

The Namesake (ISBN 9780618485222) by Jhumpa Lahiri

Seniors are expected to read with sophisticated interpretive skills. Annotations should be clear and distinct and the highlighting limited to key passages. Please follow these directions for notations:

1. Take the time to look up and write the definition of any word that is new to you.
2. Highlight passages thoughtfully and jot down your reason, because it is difficult to remember when school begins.
3. If you notice a repeated pattern, such as of an idea or image, make a note of it.
4. Look for higher-level ideas such as symbolism, paradox, irony, point of view, and cultural positioning. Write marginal notes.
5. Circle every new character. Mark insightful excerpts of dialogue and descriptions of the character's appearance, attitudes, and behavior.
6. Comment on conflicts, both stated and implied, internal and external. How do the characters handle the conflicts? What does this say about their personalities?
7. Comment on the theme or main idea of the novel. What does the story reveal about the human condition?

All students should be ready for an objective test on this reading at the beginning of the school year in homeroom, regardless of when their English class is scheduled. They should also bring their paperback edition of this novel to the first class meeting to show evidence of active reading. In addition, students should be prepared to write about and discuss the novel in depth. To facilitate class discussions, please purchase the edition indicated above.

If you have any questions, please contact Ms. Rose Crnkovich, English Department Chairperson, at (708) 453-8392 or e-mail: ib@trinityhs.org.

Have a safe and happy summer! Enjoy the novel!

(over for IB English IV)

