

Summer Reading for RBVHS English 12 IB

To: Counselors, Parents, Teachers of students enrolling in English 12 IB at Rancho Buena Vista High School, 2009-2010.

From: RBVHS English Department

We have selected the following two works as summer reading for students enrolling in the English 12 IB class at RBV in the fall of 2009. Students enrolling in this class will read these two works over the summer.

List of Works:

- ❖ *Oedipus Rex*- Sophocles (From *The Theban Plays*)
- ❖ *The Stranger*- Albert Camus

When students begin school in August 2009, we will collect the additional assignment for both works and give students an assessment based on the two works they have studied. It is, therefore, essential that the students read these works carefully and complete their work. In addition, these texts have been identified as recommended reading for the Advanced Placement English Literature and Composition Exam; exposure to as many of these recommended texts as possible is in the students' best interest.

Students may wish to check these books out from a public library or purchase their own copies. Purchasing their own copies, if financially possible, is the ideal option as students can highlight and annotate the texts as part of their study and preparation for evaluation.

Please direct any questions to Rancho Buena Vista's English department chairperson, Sue Butler. (760) 727-7284 ext. 72225.

English 12 IB Summer Reading Additional Assignment

This assignment is designed to assess your comprehension of your summer reading. You will be demonstrating your ability to analyze key passages from the texts and how these passages contribute to the authors' overall purpose of the works. This assignment will help you prepare for an in-class essay exam on your works. You will also be formulating questions that will serve as a catalyst for discussion of these works.

Tasks:

1. Select **one key passage from each work**. For each passage, write a commentary about the significance of the passage and how it contributes to the author's purpose of the text. Include a discussion of the following in each commentary:
 - a. What is the context of this passage? What has led up to this in the text, and what does it lead to in the text?
 - b. What is the significance of this passage to the development of character and theme in the work?
 - c. Analyze any significant literary techniques the author employs to create meaning in the passage.
2. Generate **at least five genuine questions** you have about the text. These should be honest, thought-provoking questions that lead to interesting discussion.

Format:

- Commentaries will be submitted to turnitin.com at the beginning of the course.
- Each commentary should be typed and saved for later use and submission.
- Each commentary should be no longer than two pages in length.
- Follow MLA format, including heading, spacing, 12 pt font, 1" margins, etc.

Due Date: This assignment is due the first day of school.