

June 2023

Dear Honors English IV Student:

Summer reading is an important part of the curriculum at Gloucester City High School. Your reading book has been carefully selected by the staff, who have chosen the texts for both their appropriateness in terms of reading level and their value as literary classics with which high school students should have some familiarity.

You have been assigned *Tess of the D'Urbervilles* by Thomas Hardy as your summer reading text. The reading must be completed by the first day of school. The essay will be written in class the first week of school.

After reading the novel, you will respond to the prompt below. The writing will be completed in class, but you can prepare by keeping notes. You will be able to use your notes while writing the essay. Here are my suggestions for approaching the reading:

1. Use sticky notes at the end of each story to indicate the plot. (If you need sticky notes come see me.) The sticky notes will be the plot or synopsis of the story.
2. Make a copy of the Major Works Data Sheet (MWDS).
3. Research the sections of the MWDS that are highlighted in yellow and note the information in the worksheet.
4. As you read, add information about characters, setting, theme, and literary devices.
5. Use sticky notes to underline memorable quotations and make comments about the quotation. How does the quote reflect the elements of literature indicated in the Google Slides?

Prompt: Choose three elements of literature (Setting, characterization, plot, Literary devices, or theme) and discuss their role and importance in *All the Light We Cannot See* by Anthony Doerr. Be sure to make clear how the three elements added to the overall impact of the novel.

We also encourage you to read as much for fun as you possibly can. Reading books, magazines, and newspapers over the summer will help you learn new things and keep your reading skills sharp, which will help you in all of your classes next year.

Have a wonderful vacation. We are looking forward to seeing you in September.

Sincerely,

The Members of the English Department