

English III

Summer Reading 2011-2012

Welcome Juniors!

You are asked to read one novel this summer. One novel is required of all juniors. Additionally, you are required to complete the assignments below. The class will briefly discuss the novel to evaluate your understanding.

All responses should be typed and double-spaced on standard 8.5 x 11 inch paper with a 12 point font. All entries must have a heading in the upper right-hand corner with your name, this course name, and Summer Reading as the title on separate lines. Bring your assignment and your book to class (unless you borrowed a book) on the first full day of class. You will be expected to discuss this novel and take a quiz after some discussion of the required reading. You will receive a grade for responses based on content, focus, spelling, punctuation, grammar and ability to follow directions.

<i>Academics</i>	<i>The Hunger Games by Suzanne Collins Book One</i>
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Required Reading: The Hunger Games by Suzanne Collins

Answer in complete sentences. Responses should be typed. You need not retype the questions. Your response should include part of the question as the introduction to the answer.

Assignment One: Questions for The Hunger Games

1. How does Katniss feel about the country of Panem? Why does she need to make her face “an indifferent mask” and be careful what she says in public?
2. Describe Katniss’s relationships with Gale, with Prim, and with her mother. How do those relationships define her personality? Why does she say about Peeta, “I feel like I owe him something and I hate owing people”? How does her early encounter with Peeta affect their relationship after they are chosen as tributes?
3. How does the fact that the tributes are always on camera affect their behavior from the time they are chosen? Does it make it easier or harder for them to accept their fate? How are the “career tributes” different from the others?
4. Why are the “tributes” given stylists and dressed so elaborately for the opening ceremony? Does this ceremony remind you of events in our world, either past or present? Compare those ceremonies in real life to the one in the story.
5. When Peeta declares his love for Katniss in the interview, does he really mean it or did Haymitch create the “star-crossed lovers’ story? What does Haymitch mean when he says, “it’s all a big show. It’s all how you’re perceived”? Why do they need to impress sponsors and what are those sponsors looking for when they are watching the Games?
6. Before the Games start, Peeta tells Katniss, “. . . I want to die as myself . . . I don’t want to change me in there. Turn me into some kind of monster that I’m not.” What does this tell you about Peeta? What does he fear more than death? Is he able to stay true to himself during the Games?
7. Why does Katniss ignore Haymitch’s advice to head directly away from the Cornucopia? Did she do the right thing to fight for equipment? What are the most important skills she has for staying alive? Her knowledge of nature? Her skill with a bow and arrow? Her trapping ability? What qualities of her personality keep her going? Her capacity for love? Her intelligence? Her self-control?
8. Why does Peeta join with the Career Tributes in the beginning of the Games? What does he hope to gain? Why do they accept him when they start hunting as a group? Why do groups form in the beginning when they know only one of them will be able to survive?
9. What makes Katniss and Rue trust each other to become partners? What does Katniss gain from this friendship besides companionship? Is Katniss and Rue’s partnership formed for different reasons than the other group’s?
10. Discuss the ways in which the Gamemakers control the environment and “entertainment” value of the Games. How does it affect the tributes to know they are being manipulated to make the Games more exciting for the gamblers and viewers? Does knowing that she is on live TV make Katniss behave differently than she would otherwise?

11. When does Katniss first realize that Peeta does care for her and is trying to keep her alive? When does she realize her own feelings for him? Did Haymitch think all along that he could keep them both alive by stressing the love story? Are they actually in love?

12. What do you think is the cruelest part of the Hunger Games? What kind of people would devise this spectacle for the entertainment of their populace? Can you see parallels between these Games and the society that condones them, and other related events and cultures in the history of the world?

13. In 1848, Karl Marx wrote in *The Communist Manifesto*, "The history of all hitherto existing society is the history of class struggles." Discuss this statement as it applies to the society and government of Panem. Do you believe there is any chance to eradicate class struggles in the future?

14. Reality TV has been a part of the entertainment world since the early days of television (with shows such as *Candid Camera* and the *Miss America Pageant*), but in the 21st century there has been a tremendous growth of competitive shows and survival shows. Discuss this phenomenon with respect to *The Hunger Games*. What other aspects of our popular culture do you see reflected in this story?

After reading the book, discuss the following: (one typed paragraph minimum for each question)

- Why did Katniss enter the games even though she wasn't picked?
- Describe the nation of Panem.
- What started the tradition of the Hunger Games?
- What is the purpose of these games?
- Who is chosen to participate?
- Why does Katniss go into the woods beyond the barrier of District 12? And who does she meet there?
- What is the origin of the Mockingjay?
- What happens on Reaping Day?
- What is so special about Katniss's costume in the opening ceremonies? And why was this themed costume created for her?
- **How do the remaining contestants know when another has died while the games are in session? Give an example.**

Assignment Two: Map of District 12

- Students are to create a map of District 12 on 8.5 x 11 paper. These maps should be neatly drawn, labeled and colored. The maps must include the following:
 - the Seam
 - the Hob
 - fencing
 - the woods
 - the meadow
 - Katniss' house

Assignment Three:

Your assignment is to design a new Capitol mutt. Your creature should be a combination of existing animals, but can have added, genetically-designed features. It should serve a specific purpose for the Capitol.

Steps

1. Determine what kind of creature you will design. What does it look like? What is its purpose? How does it serve the Capitol? How do the people living in the Districts deal with or avoid it?
2. Draw and label your new mutt. Labels should identify the creature's special features.
3. Write a paragraph explaining your mutation. Your paragraph must cover the following:
 - Genetic building-blocks (which animals were combined).
 - Purpose (what the Capitol uses it for).
 - Coping techniques (how do the people living in the Districts deal with or avoid these creatures?).

Criteria

You will be graded for creativity, presentation, detail, and writing. Your drawing must be neat and detailed, and must have important features labeled. Your paragraph must include all of the elements listed above.