

Dear Incoming Honors English Sophomores,

Your summer reading texts are:

"Encountering the Other: the Challenge for the 21st Century," lecture by Ryszard Kapuscinski

The lecture can be found linked in the Google Classroom Summer Reading Assignment posting or here:

<https://www.cusd80.com/cms/lib/AZ01001175/Centricity/Domain/2112/Encountering%20the%20Other.pdf>

and

Persepolis: The Story of a Childhood, by Marjane Satrapi (This is the first part in a series).

You may purchase *Persepolis: The Story of a Childhood* or check it out from the public library. If you are unable to do either, you may access it on this website:

<https://www.ritenour.k12.mo.us/cms/lib/MO01910124/Centricity/Domain/494/the-complete-persepolis-by.pdf>

(Note: we are only reading the first part in the series; thus, if you choose this version end on page 157 as indicated by the pdf page tracking at the top of the webpage.)

Assignment:

1. **Prior to reading**, you will write **one thoughtful** journal entry where you will respond to any of following topics these texts explore, or you could respond to a combination of them:

1. Encountering the other
2. Oppression
3. Tolerance and intolerance
4. Overcoming adversity
5. Family relationships
6. Violence
7. Thinking for yourself

Your entry needs to be one full page and should include your thoughts, questions, observations, etc. about the topic. Some possibilities include (but are not limited to):

- Explain what the topic means to you.
- Why is the topic important?
- What are some related topics?
- Describe your own personal experiences with the topic.
- Have you heard anything in the news about any of the topics?

2. **Closely read and annotate the texts**, paying special attention to the themes presented. If you are unable to annotate directly on the texts, use post-it notes or keep a log in a notebook /composition book. You may organize this chronologically or another way that makes sense to you (i.e. by stylistic device, literary element - character; theme; symbolism, etc.).

3. **After you read both, write another journal entry.** This one will be a personal reflection. Choose and describe the most important takeaways (concepts, issues, factual information, etc.) from the readings and justify your choices.

The journals should be handwritten, **one page** in length, written margin to margin, and on separate sheets of paper (not back to back).

During the first weeks of school, you will take an exam and complete a book talk for either or both texts. These are designed for you to demonstrate your careful and thoughtful reading. For the book talk, you will make an appointment with your teacher during the early weeks of school for before school, at lunch, or after school. Bring your annotations and journals to that appointment. During it, you will prove your thoughtful reading by engaging in a three to five minute discussion based on questions and text selections presented by your teacher, so read carefully.

Additionally, there will be class lessons and a writing assignment designed around these two readings, and our themes for the year are rooted in them.

You must also bring the texts to class, beginning the first day. You will need them for at least the first few weeks of school. The electronic versions are acceptable.

I hope that you enjoy your reading and your summer!

Mrs. Bell