

# CHAPARRAL STAR ACADEMY SUMMER READING LIST AND ASSIGNMENTS FOR ENGLISH I

## SELECTION:

### THE HOBBIT BY J.R.R. TOLKIEN

You will need to purchase your own copy of the book so that you will be able to annotate as you read the selection. The preferred edition is published by Random House Publishing Group, with the publication date of 1986 and the ISBN number of: ISBN-13: 9780345339683. This selection may be purchased from Amazon(\$5.99), Barnes and Noble (\$8.99), Half Price Books and other book stores. You could also check Goodwill stores and other thrift shops.

1. During the first week of school, we will have a quiz over the book. ***You will need to read closely for detail!*** This quiz will be counted as a Test grade. This quiz will not only assess details from the book, but whether or not you understand the plot and the development of major themes throughout the book.

2. We will also be writing an essay **IN CLASS** over the following themes in the book. You may choose one of the following themes and annotate your book and begin developing your essay with your annotations.

a. **The Quest**—*Requires the main character to physically go somewhere, usually in a circular route so that he/she returns home. Where does Bilbo go? Who does he encounter in the journey? What unfamiliar circumstances does he encounter? What events change Bilbo and develop his character? How is he different at the end of the journey? Do any other characters go on a journey? Why?*

b. **Property and Community**—*Usually, the object of the quest is something that will improve the welfare of the character's community. What is Thorin seeking? How will it help others? Smaug and Gollum represent the perverted use of property. How is this developed and what are examples of this in their actions and possessions?*

d. **The Uses of Power**—*Who has power in the book? How is that power used? Does the use of power develop in Bilbo during the journey? How does it develop?*

3. You will need to annotate as you read. **You will be expected to make at least ONE annotation per page in the book.** The more that you annotate in your reading, the more this will help you with your essay and beginning of the year quiz. Annotation suggestions are as follows:

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4. **Begin to annotate.** Use a pen, pencil, post-it notes, or a **highlighter (although use it sparingly!).**

a. Summarize important ideas in your own words.

b. Text Connections--Add examples from real life, other books, TV, movies, and so forth.

c. Vocabulary--Define words that are new to you.

- d. Mark passages that you find confusing with a ???
- e. I wonder.....Write questions that you might have for later discussion in class.
- f. Characters—comment on the actions or development of characters
- g. Comment on things that intrigue, impress, surprise, disturb, etc.
- h. Literary devices—alliteration, foreshadowing, hyperbole, motifs, metaphor, simile, imagery
- i. Feel free to draw a picture when a visual connection is appropriate

**j. Use the SIFFT method:**

1. **S—stands for symbols**-- *A symbol is a literal real thing that also stands for something else, like a [flag](#), or a cross, or [fire](#). Most anything might be a symbol and finding these symbols help to discover a whole new layer of meaning the author included into the book.*

2. **I—stands for imagery**-- *Imagery includes any [words](#) the author adds that appeal to one or more of the five senses. Of course, if a place were described in such vivid description that every single imagery detail was covered, you would have a very long book. Authors carefully choose which images to include when writing a book. Paying close [attention](#) to imagery is important in understanding an author's message and attitude toward a subject.*

3. **F—stands for figurative language**-- *Figurative language includes things like [similes](#), metaphors, and personification. Figurative language can be used to compare things to other things which, like imagery, can reveal an author's attitude toward a subject. Figurative language works close with imagery.*

4. **T—stands for Tone**-- *[Tone](#) is composed of imagery and figurative language along with diction and other elements. Tone is the overall mood of a piece of literature. Tone can carry as much meaning to the story as the plot does.*

5. **T—the second T stands for Theme**-- *In literature, a theme is a broad idea in a story, or a message or lesson conveyed by a work. This message is usually about life, society or human nature. Themes explore timeless and universal ideas. Most themes are implied rather than explicitly stated. Deep thematic content is not required in literature; however, some readers hold that all stories inherently [project](#) some kind of outlook on life that can be taken as a theme, regardless of whether or not this is the intent of the author. Themes arise from the interplay of plot, setting, [character](#), conflict.*

**Suggested methods for marking a text:**

- Remember to mark and make notes as you go—it will be hard to go back and mark it later!
- If you are a person who does not like to write in a book, you may want to invest in a supply of post it notes.
- If you feel really creative, or are just super organized, you can even color code your annotations by using different color post-its, highlighters, or pens.
- **Brackets:** If several lines seem important, just draw a line down the margin and

underline/highlight only the key phrases.

- Asterisks: Place an asterisk (\*) next to an important passage; use two if it is really important.
- Marginal Notes: Use the space in the margins to make comments, define words, ask questions, etc.
- Underline/highlight: Caution! Do not underline or highlight too much! You want to concentrate on the important elements, not entire pages (use brackets for that).