



English 9 Honors Summer Assignment 2024

Due Date: Friday, September 13th, 2024

In order to prepare for English 9 Honors, it is necessary for you to practice your critical reading and writing skills. This assignment is designed to give you a glimpse into the types of skills you will need to be successful in the course. Most importantly, it requires you to read, write, and think at an honors level.

Assignment: Read and annotate *The Adventures of Tom Sawyer* by Mark Twain.

You may purchase your own copy or view the full text in the following link: [Tom Sawyer by Mark Twain](#). If you would like to borrow a book, one can be obtained from the Smithtown Public Library or from the Smithtown High School West English Department Office (631-382-3036) through **Wednesday, July 10th (8:00 am - 1:00 pm)**.

As you read, annotate the novel by either writing in your own copy or in a composition notebook. Please do not use sticky notes. When annotating EACH CHAPTER, please consider the following:

- Use the “Big Ideas and Topics” provided to help guide your annotations.
- Track the development of characters, conflicts, themes, imagery, etc.
- Reflect on the content; synthesize what is important and why.
- Ask questions—which often helps to clarify meaning.
- Make predictions (inferences) based on textual evidence.
- State opinions and be able to defend those opinions.
- Analyze the author’s craft (track location of evidence with chapters and page numbers).
- Make connections to other aspects of the text itself, to other works of literature, and to you and the world around you.
- Reflect on your reading process—how you read and your comprehension.

The English 9 Honors teachers expect you to have thorough annotations/notes for each chapter of the book. **The annotations will assist in your preparation to take a reading and writing test following the September 13th due date.**

READER'S GUIDE: Big Ideas and Topics

geographical settings and landscapes

childhood

adulthood

friendships

young love

common practices

superstitions

humor

civilized behavior

evil behavior