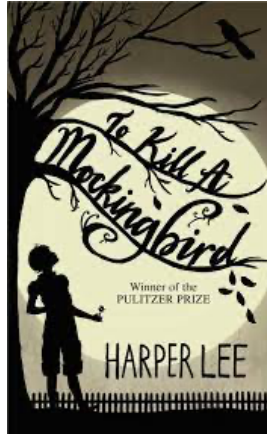


Station Camp High School 9th Grade English Honors Summer Reading



9th Grade HONORS Required Reading

To Kill a Mockingbird
Harper Lee

To Kill a Mockingbird is the unforgettable novel of a childhood in a sleepy Southern town and the crisis of conscience that rocked it. *To Kill A Mockingbird* became both an instant bestseller and a critical success when it was first published in 1960. It went on to win the Pulitzer Prize in 1961 and was later made into an Academy Award-winning film, also a classic.

Compassionate, dramatic, and deeply moving, *To Kill A Mockingbird* takes readers to the roots of human behavior - to innocence and experience, kindness and cruelty, love and hatred, humor and pathos. Now with over 18 million copies in print and translated into forty languages, this regional story by a young Alabama woman claims universal appeal. Today it is regarded as a masterpiece of American literature.

*After reading *To Kill a Mockingbird*, complete **ONE** of the two assignments on the following pages.

SCHS Rising 9th Grade Summer Reading Assignment

After reading *To Kill a Mockingbird* by Harper Lee, you should complete **ONE** of the following two assignments. Please bring the assignment with you on the first full day of class (August 2023 for first semester students; January 2024 for second semester students). Be aware that we will spend approximately the first week of class on this book, and you will take a test on it as well.

Choose ONE of the following options on the Most Important Value:

Option One- Newspaper Article

1. At the top of the paper, write or type what you think is the single most important value or theme found in *To Kill a Mockingbird*. **This idea must be written in an insightful, complete sentence.**
2. Divide your paper into 2 columns.
3. Choose an article in a reliable newspaper, magazine, or online news website that has another current, real-world example of the value or theme you have chosen. Avoid Wikipedia, social networks, blogs, and other unreliable sources. Write or type the entire content of your example in the left-hand column. Make sure you include the title, publication (ex. *New York Times*), the author's name, and the date the article was published.
4. In the right-hand column, explain in 3-5 paragraphs the connection between the idea found in the book and the additional real-world example. Your explanation should demonstrate a thoughtful, insightful, and thorough connection between the two texts.
 - a. Your explanation should include the following: specific examples from the book, specific examples from the article, and how both of these are connected.
5. See the example provided. Your response may be typed or handwritten.

Option Two- Poem

1. At the top of the paper, write or type what you think is the single most important value or theme found in *To Kill a Mockingbird*. **This idea must be written in an insightful, complete sentence.**
2. Divide your paper into 2 columns.
3. Select a poem by a reputable author which illustrates this idea. Avoid social media posts, blogs, or other websites with poems written by random writers. Although the poem doesn't have to be by a "classic" poet, you should select one written by a **professional or published author.**
4. Write or type the entire content of your poem in the left-hand column. Make sure you include the title, the author's name, and the date the poem was published.
5. In the right-hand column, explain in 3-5 paragraphs the connection between the idea found in *To Kill a Mockingbird* and the poem. Your explanation should demonstrate a thoughtful, insightful, and thorough connection between the two texts.
 - a. Your explanation should include the following: specific examples from the book, specific examples from the poem, and how both of these are connected.
6. See the example provided. Your response may be typed or handwritten.

Example of Most Important Idea in *Romeo and Juliet*

Most Important Value: Although secrets are meant to be kept, sometimes it is a person's duty to break the trust of another if the secret is harmful.

"Mahony Comes Up Short"	Explanation of the Connection
<p data-bbox="198 466 532 554">Los Angeles Times February 20, 2004 (Author's name not given)</p> <p data-bbox="198 583 799 814">Cardinal Roger M. Mahony has insisted throughout the allegations of priestly abuse of minors in the Los Angeles Archdiocese that his top priority was the protection of victims. Unfortunately for all involved in this heartbreaking affair, the available evidence finds him still dragging out the process.</p> <p data-bbox="198 844 792 1339">Even in Mahony's welcome and heralded "Report to the People of God," issued this week, there's little that's new. For instance, although the report states that 244 priests, deacons and others associated with the Catholic Church have been accused of abuse, only the 211 names already made public by the press or in court proceedings are given in the report. Providing authorities with the names of the other 33 people accused of misdeeds, no matter what the archdiocese deems the quality of the accusations, would have been new and worthy. Instead, through litigation the archdiocese continues to block the release of personnel files that would move all such cases forward.</p> <p data-bbox="198 1369 792 1801">Handing over needed information to authorities would not dismiss a presumption of innocence. It would, however, show a commitment to protecting children from possible continued abuse by allowing civil authorities to decide on the allegations' worth. For more than 20 months the district attorney's office has sought archdiocese records regarding allegations of child sex abuse. Through its legal resistance, the archdiocese, under the umbrella of protecting the possibly innocent, sends a message that its clergy carry more weight than protecting and providing justice to children.</p>	<p data-bbox="821 466 1414 827">Cardinal Roger M. Mahony's report, "Report to the People of God," has included the names of 211 of the 244 priests who allegedly committed child abuse. This leaves authorities with 33 priests whose identities are unknown. It would be helpful to the authorities to have the names of the priests so they could investigate and possibly bring those men to trial. By refusing to give the additional names, Mahony appears to be protecting the clergy over the children. His silence hinders the police investigations.</p> <p data-bbox="821 856 1424 1218">In <i>Romeo and Juliet</i>, the Friar and the Nurse also withhold information. The Friar not only secretly marries Romeo and Juliet, but he also keeps their marriage a secret. The Nurse helps Romeo and Juliet by being a messenger of sorts and by setting up the arrangements for the marriage. Both deliberately help to keep Romeo and Juliet's marriage secret, even from the parents who trust them. It would have been to everyone's benefit to tell Capulet, Montague, the Prince, and even the County Paris.</p> <p data-bbox="821 1247 1417 1646">Mahony's resistance of giving additional information prevents justice from being served. The information could help provide protection for children and could prevent the injustice from happening again. In <i>Romeo and Juliet</i>, the Friar and Nurse withhold information that possibly could have saved Romeo and Juliet's lives. Although secrets are given in confidence that they will not be told, sometimes it is a person's duty to break the trust of another, especially if the secret is harmful. Both texts demonstrate that some secrets should be told to prevent harmful situations.</p>

Mahony should release to authorities the files of accused church employees as well as ensure that all those facing credible accusations who are still employed by the archdiocese are suspended from the ministry or from other church-related employment until their cases are cleared.

Mahony no doubt sees himself as torn between two responsibilities, to his priests and to the faithful, but this is a case in which the cardinal must place his faith in civil authority. The innocence of priests accused of pedophilia is not for Mahony or church lawyers to decide.

Summer Reading Assignment
To Kill a Mockingbird
by Harper Lee

Theme: What is the single most important value or theme found in *To Kill a Mockingbird*?

Find a newspaper article or a poem representing the same value or theme you identified in the novel.

You must include the publication information.

Explain the connection (4 paragraphs) between the theme you identified in *To Kill a Mockingbird* and the work you have chosen. Use evidence from both the novel and your secondary source. Be sure to include proper citations.

Newspaper or poem representing the value or theme you have chosen.

Remember to include the publication information.

Explain the connection (4 paragraphs) between the idea found in *To Kill a Mockingbird* and the work you have chosen. Use evidence from both the novel and your secondary source. Be sure to include proper citations.