

DEER VALLEY

Dear Parents and Guardians,

My name is Sarah Vecera and I will be your child's teacher for ELA 1-2 Honors for the 2020-21 school year at Deer Valley High School. I look forward to meeting you and your students in August. In the meantime, included in this packet is the assigned work for over the summer holiday. Please try your best to be sure your child completes the required reading *and* the required writing before the first day of school, or their first week will be very taxing.

The Summer Reading Packet serves a variety of purposes. The first and most obvious one is to be sure students continue reading, learning, and thinking critically during the time away from the classroom. Summer Assignments are part of our DVHS ELA Honors program, and they should expect work next summer too! Secondly, it allows more room in the curriculum. During the school year students will be reading one book as individuals or as a group, and we will be focused on a classic text in our class lessons. This allows students to be exposed to classical literature while opening up the wide world of modern literature to be read for their leisure. I truly believe that if I can get a student to *enjoy* reading, they will begin helping themselves become educated citizens. The third purpose of the Summer Reading Packet is that it allows me to get a baseline skill-level for each student, in terms of reading comprehension and analysis, and writing abilities. The last purpose (and the main reason for Assignment One) is to meet my students, and get parent contact information. All Honors and AP English courses will include required summer assignments

2. In the body of the message, please include the following:
 - a. Introduction with name and age
 - b. A recent picture
 - c. School background information- schools you have attended, programs you are involved with, honors/advanced courses taken, athletics, etc.
 - d. Hobbies/Interests- your favorite class in school and why, career aspirations, hobbies, and other interesting/unique information
 - e. What you are looking forward to most about high school
3. Wait for a reply from me to verify that I have received your work! Be patient. It may take a while depending on when you send. I look forward to meeting you!

Assignment 2: Summer Reading

1. Plot Overview- Give a detailed overview of the entire plot, being sure to use such vocabulary as *exposition*, *rising action*, *climax*, *falling action*, and *resolution*. Your summary should give major development in both the story and the characters. 3-5 paragraphs
2. Character List- Choose 6 characters from the novel and write a paragraph for each. Explain who they are in relation to the protagonist, and how they influence the plot at various instances.
3. Theme Analysis- In a four to five-paragraph essay that includes an introduction with thesis statement and conclusion, analyze the message or theme of your novel. Explain the

and life on the fringes. Caught between trying to live his life and trying to run from it, Charlie must learn to navigate those wild and poignant roller-