

**KENNEDY CATHOLIC HIGH SCHOOL**  
**ENGLISH 9 (Regents) ~ SUMMER 2016 ASSIGNMENT**

Welcome to Kennedy Catholic High School where your academic journey begins this summer! In order to prevent learning losses from the previous year and to increase learning levels in the next school year, the English Department assigns reading and writing to all students each summer. We hope that as you continue to hone your reading and writing skills, you will also enjoy the literature!

Incoming 9<sup>th</sup> graders enrolled in the English 9 (Regents level) course are asked to complete the following two assignments:

- I. Read *The Old Man and the Sea* by Ernest Hemingway. (You do not need to purchase this book. In September, you will download the book to your school-issued iPad so that we can refer to it while discussing.) After reading this book, please answer the following 2 questions. This assignment, composed in your best written English, must be either computer-generated or written neatly in blue or black ink on loose leaf paper.
  - (A) How do the author and narrator depict Santiago? What three adjectives best describe Santiago? In writing this short character sketch (approximately 8 -12 sentences), include specific details from the plot to support your assertions.
  - (B) Write about 2 significant or powerful quotations. Begin by copying each quotation and identifying its speaker (which may be the narrator.) Then explain why you feel each excerpt is important. Each explanation should be approximately 8 – 12 sentences.
  
- II. Purchase the paperback edition of *To Kill a Mockingbird* by Harper Lee. As you read the novel, annotate the text. To annotate is to highlight, to underline, and to make brief notes in the margins. Taking such steps will help ensure that you are reading actively. Among other things, your annotations should reflect (a) traits of characters (b) descriptions of settings (c) key developments in plot and theme (d) references to the title (e) examples of foreshadowing, irony, and symbols.

Both the written assignment for *The Old Man and the Sea* and the annotated *To Kill a Mockingbird* will be collected on the first day of classes. Besides receiving a grade for these assignments, you will have at least two more assessments on these literary works (following class discussion.) If you have any questions, please don't hesitate to contact Miss Willis (English Department Chair) via email: [swillis@kennedycatholic.org](mailto:swillis@kennedycatholic.org). Enjoy the summer! All of us are looking forward to welcoming you to Kennedy Catholic High School soon!