



Naperville North High School

Honors English 3 Summer Reading

Welcome, future students! I am excited to meet you in August and I hope that you are equally excited to begin studying together next year. I will provide you with articles and links to pieces that you should read and write about over the summer. These texts will be the basis for our analysis, discussions, and essays in the start of the year, along with a first look at your writing skills.

Do we actually go over the summer reading and writing? Yes, in fact, it makes up our first few weeks of curriculum. If in the past you didn't touch upon your summer obligation, please know that will not happen this year. The same can be said for your writing.

When we meet together, you will need to have all of the pieces **read (for meaning), annotated (for purpose), and prepared (for explanation)**. Additionally, you will have a writing prompt to accomplish.

Here is a [link to the folder](#) and/or (<https://bit.ly/NNHSSummerReadHE3>) with all of the articles/stories. Here is a link to the [writing prompt](#) and/or (<https://bit.ly/HE3SummerWriting>).

Here, additionally, is the suggested schedule:

June: Read, annotate, and analyze "A Nose for Words"

July: Read, annotate, and analyze "Notes on Punctuation" and "The Pleasure of Books"

August: Read, annotate, and analyze "Sonny's Blues" and Writing Prompt

In regards to your annotations, here is some helpful information:

Annotation is simply noting words on the page that strike you, phrases that confuse or thrill you, or places where you want to talk back to the speaker or author. Your goal is to record ideas and impressions for future analysis. Why bother to do this? Here's what well-known scholar and avid reader Mortimer Adler says in *How to Read a Book*:

Why is marking up a [text] indispensable to reading? First, it keeps you awake. (And I don't mean merely conscious; I mean awake.) In the second place, reading, if it is active, is thinking, and thinking tends to express itself in words, spoken or written. The marked [text] is usually the thought-through book. Finally, writing helps you remember the thought you had, or the thoughts the author expressed.

So whether you use sticky notes, highlight passages, or write comments directly in the margins, annotation helps you become a better reader. There are no hard-and-fast rules for annotating properly, but the following approach is a good way to get started. (NOTE: If you are unable to print these documents, **please do not worry!** As an alternative, you may take notes in a notebook. If you choose to take notes in a notebook, I recommend that you include page numbers and direct quotations so that you may better recall and understand why you took them.)

I am looking forward to a fantastic 2025-2026 school year. Why? I love teaching, I believe in the power of HE3, and I look forward to seeing the energy, creativity, work ethic, and sense of belonging we can establish.

Have a wonderful summer.

Please contact me with any questions: Mr. Sniadecki msniadecki@naperville203.org