

Haddonfield Memorial High School
Summer Assignment Cover Sheet

Course: Accelerated English 10

Teacher(s): Mr. David Scorsolini & Mrs. Jamie Foster-Stout

Due Date: First day of school

Grade Weight (%) of Quarter 1: Approximately 5% of total 1st MP Grade

NJ Core Curriculum Standards:

3.1.12.A.2 Identify interrelationships between and among ideas and concepts within a text, such as cause-and-effect relationships. 3.1.12.E.3 Analyze the ways in which a text's organizational structure supports or confounds its meaning or purpose. 3.1.12.G.2 Analyze how our literary heritage is marked by distinct literary movements and is part of a global literary tradition. 3.2.12.D.2 Write a variety of essays (for example, a summary, an explanation, a description, a literary analysis essay) that: • Develops a thesis; • Creates an organizing structure appropriate to purpose, audience and context; • Includes relevant information and excludes extraneous information; • Makes valid inferences; • Supports judgments with relevant and substantial evidence and well-chosen details; and • provides a coherent conclusion.

Description of Assignment:

Students will learn how a "road trip" leads to discovery. Important themes in American literature will be recognized as students complete the reading and writing assignment. Students should examine their own attitudes to the topics presented in the text.

Purpose of Assignment:

Students will learn how many Americans have used the road trip as a means to discover their country and themselves. The reading will sensitize students to particular themes and ideas that are uniquely American. These themes will be referenced and discussed throughout the duration of the course.

Specific Expectations:

A word-processed document that thoughtfully and insightfully responds to the three essential questions provided. Each response should be approximately 10-12 sentences in length.

Potential Help Sources:

N/A

Accelerated English 10 – Summer Reading and Reflection

AMERICAN LITERATURE

Accelerated English 10 is a rigorous course, but well worth the effort. You are asked to view this course as a journey, both artistically and personally. It examines the evolution of America's literary tradition, while challenging you to embark on a personal quest for knowledge, insight, and perspective. It is my goal that you learn as much about yourself as you do about your country. The novel you read over the summer will provide an important foundation for your studies throughout the year. Please invest the time and effort in this assignment so that it is representative of your best work.

“A good traveler has no fixed plans, and is not intent on arriving.” ~ Lao Tzu

“I travel not to go anywhere, but to go. I travel for travel's sake.
The great affair is to move.”
~ Robert Louis Stevenson

Summer Reading Assignment

1. Read On The Road by Jack Kerouac **OR** Travels With Charley by John Steinbeck **OR** Blue Highways by William Least Heat Moon.

- Please refer to the note about On The Road near the bottom of this sheet.
- You are responsible for obtaining the novel on your own.
- If you would like to select a different novel by an American author about a journey, please contact your teacher or Mr. Klaus (cklaus@haddonfield.k12.nj.us) for approval by July 8.

2. Once your reading assignment is completed, answer the provided essential questions. Be sure to respond to each question in your own words AND include a quote for each to support your ideas.

A note about On The Road: In the 1950s, a new wave of intellectuals broke off from the mainstream and formed a counterculture known as the Beat generation. Through poetry, music and literature, the Beat generation was able to redefine the way many young people viewed America. While many great writers added to the Beat movement, Jack Kerouac has been given credit for catapulting the ideals of the Beat generation into the mainstream for over four decades. His novel On the Road has been called the “Beat Bible,” as it is believed to transcend the bulk of Beat literature and define the movement.

The Beat generation was interested in exploring the freedom offered in America. This interest, however, often led to reckless, indulgent, and inappropriate behavior that challenged established authority and traditional values. Whether they did this just for kicks or to make an important statement about our culture is up for debate.

One does not need to condone their behavior to recognize Kerouac's importance to the canon of American literature. Class discussion in September will address these issues, but if you or your parent/guardian does not feel comfortable with the material in this novel, please select Travels With Charley as the reading assignment.

**Accelerated English 10
Summer Reading Assignment**

Respond in your own words AND include a quote for support in each answer.

1. What are the author/character's reasons for traveling?

2. How does the road trip influence each author's view of America?

3. Is author's view of America hopeful or hopeless? Use details to describe why you feel this way.