



Harlan High School

SUMMER READING

Advanced English I 2025-2026

Welcome to Advanced English I! This class will focus largely on a reading and writing analysis, which examines the choices authors use to influence their audience and achieve their purpose.

Thus, with an eye toward eventual rhetorical analysis, students enrolled in Advanced English I are expected to choose **ONE** personal narrative short story from the list below to read and study over the summer.

Please know that you are strongly encouraged to obtain your own copy of the short story to more easily annotate and interact with it as you read. **However, you will still be REQUIRED to complete the digital Annotations Assignment below while reading an on-line copy of your chosen short story from the Harlan Summer Reading List. (below)**

Annotating can be especially helpful when studying a piece. It involves marking aspects of the text that you find important or influential, and making comments for yourself in order to remember why you marked what you did. Please remember your annotations will be graded, and they will help you prepare to perform an in-depth analysis over your chosen personal narrative short story, as it is easier to relocate choices the author uses when you can simply read back over your comments to yourself, rather than re-reading the entire short story. **Advanced English I summer reading has TWO REQUIRED assignments: Annotation Assignment found [HERE](#) Analysis Assignment found [HERE](#) - Click to make a copy of each assignment.**

Reading your chosen book from this list will prepare you for:

- ☐ reading and analyzing the effect of the narrative voice on the text
- ☐ determining the rhetorical situation (persona, audience, purpose, and exigence)
- ☐ analyzing specific rhetorical choices (tools/strategies/techniques) the author uses
- ☐ performing a rhetorical analysis over the book that will incorporate specifically quoted rhetorical choices and analyze the effect of those choices on audience and purpose
- ☐ responding to your reading in a variety of ways to include evidence-based discussions and written responses
- ☐ experimenting with incorporating an anecdote in informative writing

Personal Narrative Short Story Choices

(please select only **ONE** short story)

Recognizing that Advanced English I is a high school course and our reading features mature content, *be sure to personally research the choices below* before selecting the one you'd prefer to read and study.

["Harrison Bergeron" by Kurt Vonnegut](#)

["Story of an Hour" by Kate Chopin](#)

["The Last Curiosity" by Lucy Tan](#)

["The Fly" by Katherine Mansfield](#)

["The Necklace" by Guy de Maupassant](#)

["The Most Dangerous Game" by Richard Connell](#)

["The Lady and the Tiger" by Frank R. Stockton](#)

["The Bet" by Anton Chekhov](#)

["The Landlady" by Roald Dahl](#)

["The Monkey's Paw" by W.W. Jacobs](#)

["The Lottery" by Shirley Jackson](#)

["An Occurrence at Owl Creek Bridge" by Ambrose Bierce](#)

For further information:

Please contact Mrs. Buescher at juton.buescher@nisd.net. During the summer, Mrs. Buescher will usually respond to emails within one week's time. **NOTE: The assignment can only be accessed via the student NISD portal.**