

Hudson Catholic Regional High School

Summer Reading Assignment

**Seniors (Not including De LaSalle Scholars)**

Incoming students must read the following novels before the first day of school:

- ALL STUDENTS: *The Secret to Success* – Eric Thomas
  - Free book link:
    - [https://d358g57815banh.cloudfront.net/jK6vP2ZN3L95D\\_VX7Ra8714Ks2WL8gT.pdf](https://d358g57815banh.cloudfront.net/jK6vP2ZN3L95D_VX7Ra8714Ks2WL8gT.pdf)
  - Assessment: Keep a Dialectical Journal to be submitted during **the first week of School**.
  - In class assessment: Students will also receive an additional writing assignment during the first month of school. The students' notes will assist them in the writing process.
- ALL STUDENTS:
  - Write your **College Application Essay**
    - You need an essay in response to one college application prompt—from the Common App or from the college of your choice. You should consider it a 650-word limit.

**Assessment:**

While reading, write a dialectical journal to record your responses to the literature. Examples of appropriate responses are written below. Your English teacher will be collecting your journals the first day of school. The only rules for these responses are:

- Write a minimum of 30 notes
- Notes should be found throughout the entire book, not just in one section!
- Any of the following categories would be considered an appropriate response:
  - Tapping into prior knowledge
  - Asking questions
  - Predicting
  - Visualizing
  - Making connections
  - Deriving meaning
  - Analyzing author's craft
  - Relating and reflecting
  - Evaluating (Making a critical stance)

Things to consider as you are taking notes:

- Stop at a passage you find vivid or suspenseful and discuss the effect it has on the novel.
- When you find something in the reading very funny or sad, add a note describing how you think the author created this moment.
- When you read a word you do not know, write it down. THEN, define the word.

- Does a character remind you of a family member or a close friend? Write down who they remind you of, and why.
- Does a conversation sound like one you have had with a friend or relative? Describe the situation in which you had this same conversation.

\*Imagine yourself as the “annoying person at the movies,” as the person who talks throughout the film. What questions would they ask? What comments would they make as they watch a movie? When comments or questions pop into your head as you read, write the notes down on a post-it note.\*

**Examples:**

**“Who tied Gulliver up? I’ll bet there are natives on the island.”**

**“I had trouble visualizing the measurements Gulliver made. It’s hard to imagine the Brobdingnagian’s size.”**

**“The law seems so weird. It reminds me of something I learned – It is illegal to have ice cream on a cherry pie in Kansas City.”**

**“These yahoos remind me of the satyrs in Greek mythology.”**

**“I’m getting really interested in the story now that the monkey has taken the box with Gulliver inside up to the roof. I wonder if he’ll drop him. Will Gulliver be okay?”**

**“I love the way Swift says that the Houyhnhnms ‘have no word in their language to express lying or falsehood.’”**

**“Here, Swift tells us the Lilliputians have to do very strange things to become part of the court. I think he is talking about how politicians would do anything to get into office.”**

**\*\*\*If you are reading from an ebook, you must write the same type of notes as you would on the Post-it note project in the dialectical journal form below. Use the directions above and submit the following on paper:**

<b>Page #</b>	<b>Comment/Question</b>
62	“I’m getting really interested in the story now that the monkey has taken the box with Gulliver inside up to the roof. I wonder if he’ll drop him. Will Gulliver be okay?”