

# SUMMER READING ASSIGNMENT

## HONORS ENGLISH 10

The 2018 summer reading assignment for Honors English 10 is *Purple Hibiscus* by Chimamanda Ngozi Adichie. Set in modern Nigeria, this novel follows a fifteen-year-old girl as she navigates conflicts within her family and her country. Adichie offers a complex portrait of an area of the world that Americans typically only learn about in broad and simplistic terms, so the novel will lead nicely into your year of studying world literature and reading from many literary genres and cultures from around the globe.

Since there are over 160 students enrolled in Honors English 10 you will need to make sure you obtain a copy of the novel early in the summer. There are some copies in the public library system. Owning a copy of the book (or finding a friend who has taken the class in the past and has a copy you can borrow) is the best alternative because we will be using it extensively for at least the first month of school. DO NOT WAIT UNTIL JUST BEFORE SCHOOL BEGINS TO GET THE BOOK. YOU WON'T FIND IT OR HAVE ENOUGH TIME TO DO A THOROUGH READ!

**As you read, keep a journal which contains the following in this order:**

- Thoughts about the beginning and ending of the novel (after the first and last chapters), either using the template provided or written in one full paragraph each - **10 pts (5 each)**
  - Ch. 1: reactions to and thoughts about the characters, conflict, setting (What do you think about them?), possibly including a prediction of what will happen in the book.
  - Ch. 17: reactions to the way the story ends, the characters developed, and the conflict resolves (What do you think about them, and what do you take away from the book?)
- A list of the characters who have an impact on the story (Kambili, Jaja, Papa/Eugene, Mama/Beatrice, Auntie Ifeoma, Papa-Nnukwu, Amaka, Father Amadi) and a 2-3 sentence description of each - **16 pts (2pts/character)**
- Interpretation of the title: write a full paragraph (4+ sentences) explaining the meaning of the title (after reading the book) and copy quotes where the title is used in the novel - **10 pts**
- Complete a dialectical journal for the development of **THREE DIFFERENT THEMES** (choose from the ones provided below) with 5 quotes and responses each. See attached page for an explanation, example, and template of a dialectical journal. - **30 pts (2pts/entry)**
  - Tradition:** How do new and old ideas and beliefs interact with and come in conflict with each other?
  - Rebellion:** How and why does one rebel against one's family? Against one's government? Against tradition?
  - Growing Up:** When and how does one "grow up"? How does one change when one grows up, what causes these changes, and/or what results from these changes?
  - Religion:** How does religion and belief affect one's thoughts, actions, and interactions? What forms does religion take?
  - Love/Devotion:** What causes one person to love another? What forms does one take? What influence does love have on one's thoughts, actions and interactions?
  - Family:** How does family influence the way one views oneself and the world? What responsibilities does one have towards one's family?
- Write a brief summary (2 sentences - no more, no less) of each chapter (there are 17 unnumbered chapters - if you buy your own copy of the book, you should write in the chapter numbers). This will help you remember specific events and chronological order. - **34 pts (2 pts/ch.)**

**This journal is worth a total of 100 points.** Be prepared to turn in the journal and take a test on the novel on the first day of class. Your notes will be used for essay writing, class discussions, and other assignments. Except for the chapter notes, your notes on the other topics should be approximately ½ to one page per topic. This assignment should be turned as a typed document. Enjoy! This will be a wonderful reading experience.

### ***Example Template for Journal Topics #1-3***

<b>Chapter 1:</b>	Character Description	Conflict Description	Setting Description	Prediction
Reactions to and thoughts about the characters, conflict, setting (what do you think about them), possibly including a prediction of what will happen in the book.				
<b>Chapter 17:</b>	Response to Characters in the Novel		Reaction to Story Resolution	
Reactions to the way the story ends, the characters developed, and the conflict resolves (What do you think about them, and what do you take away from the book?)				
A list of the characters who have an impact on the story and a 2-3 sentence description of each. (Consider personality, relationships, motivation, etc.)	Kambili			
	Jaja			

	Papa/Eugene	
	Mama/Beatrice	
	Aunty Ifeoma	
	Papa-Nnukwu	
	Amaka	
	Father Amadi	
Interpretation of the title: write a full paragraph (4+ sentences) explaining the meaning of the title (after reading the book) and copy quotes where the title is used in the novel	<u>Purple Hibiscus</u>	

**Dialectical Journal**  
*Purple Hibiscus* by Chimamanda Ngozi Adichie

**What is it?** Dialectical journals consist of daily entries in which you record your responses to a particular text. You must read, record that reading, and create an entry daily. Your responses should be honest, insightful, and show an obvious effort to connect with or better understand the text.

**How it works:** As you are reading, be aware of how your brain is processing the information; this “awareness of thought” is called metacognition. Your mental pictures, connections, questions, predictions, challenges, or even confusions are exactly what we want you to record in your dialectical journals.

This book demonstrates many aspects of humanity particularly:

- **Tradition:** How do new and old ideas and beliefs interact with and come in conflict with each other?
- **Rebellion:** How and why does one rebel against one’s family? Against one’s government? Against tradition?
- **Growing Up:** When and how does one “grow up”? How does one change when one grows up, what causes these changes, and/or what results from these changes?
- **Religion:** How does religion and belief affect one’s thoughts, actions, and interactions? What forms does religion take?
- **Love/Devotion:** What causes one person to love another? What forms does one take? What influence does love have on one’s thoughts, actions and interactions?
- **Family:** How does family influence the way one views oneself and the world? What responsibilities does one have towards one’s family?

To help you examine these elements, you will record, as you read, examples of these themes and your critical and analytical response to them.

**Directions:**

- **Use the template as your guide when completing your entries.**
- As you read and encounter an episode that strikes you, record a quotation (use ellipses...as needed) and the page number in the appropriate column.
- Beneath the quotation, write a few sentences explaining your reaction to the episode. In your responses, we will be looking for close-textual analysis (close reading of the language), connections to the text/ characters, questions about the text, characters, your beliefs, etc.
- Although some themes may be portrayed more extensively than others, you should have three (3) themes with approximately **5 entries per theme (or 15 total entries)**.
- Your logs are **due on the first day of school**.
- All logs must be typed – no hand-written entries will be accepted - plan accordingly.

**Example from *Night* by Elie Wiesel:**

<b>Theme: Capacity for Evil</b>	
<b>Quote</b>	<b>Response</b>
<p>“The Jews were made to get out. They were made to dig huge graves. And when they had finished their work, the Gestapo began theirs. Without passion, without haste, they slaughtered their prisoners...” (4).</p>	<p>This last line really bothers me. At what point do we stop thinking about what we are doing and “slaughter” without emotion, like it is just part of their daily job? How do humans become this desensitized? I think I could understand killing out of rage, but killing “without passion, without haste?” I just don’t get it...</p>

*Purple Hibiscus* Dialectical Journal Template

**Theme: Tradition:** How do new and old ideas and beliefs interact with and come in conflict with each other?

Quote	Response

--	--

*Purple Hibiscus* Dialectical Journal Template

**Theme: Rebellion:** How and why does one rebel against one's family? Against one's government? Against tradition?

Quote	Response

--	--

*Purple Hibiscus* Dialectical Journal Template

**Theme: Growing Up:** When and how does one “grow up”? How does one change when one grows up, what causes these changes, and/or what results from these changes?

<b>Quote</b>	<b>Response</b>

--	--

*Purple Hibiscus* Dialectical Journal Template

**Theme: Religion:** How does religion and belief affect one's thoughts, actions, and interactions? What forms does religion take?

Quote	Response

--	--

*Purple Hibiscus* Dialectical Journal Template

**Theme: Love/Devotion:** What causes one person to love another? What forms does one take? What influence does love have on one's thoughts, actions and interactions?

Quote	Response

--	--

*Purple Hibiscus* Dialectical Journal Template

**Theme: Family:** How does family influence the way one views oneself and the world? What responsibilities does one have towards one's family?

Quote	Response
