

## Summer Reading Requirement

## Honors English II

*Driving by Starlight* by Anat Deracine or *An Uninterrupted View of the Sky* by Melanie Crowder

### Summary of Texts

*Driving by Starlight* by Anat Deracine is a beautiful coming of age novel about what it is like to be a female in Saudi Arabia, a country with strict religious laws. The novel is from the perspective of the main character, Leena, who is trying to navigate through her complex world of family, friends, and everyday teen issues such as relationships. The decisions Leena makes will severely impact her future

*An Uninterrupted View of the Sky* by Melanie Crowder is a novel about a seventeen year old boy named Francisco who lives with his family in Bolivia. Francisco's life completely changes when his father is arrested and sent to prison by a corrupt system. As a way to survive, the entire family moves into the men's prison. The prison is dirty and the family must overcome the challenges of an unsafe environment. In addition, Francisco must grow up at a young age in order to protect himself and his little sister, Pillar.

### Guidelines:

1. Purchase your own copy of *Driving by Starlight* or *An Uninterrupted View of the Sky*. (Please reach out if you have any issues finding or purchasing a book :)
2. The **Key Topics** listed here are the primary focus for your assignment; when you come across a passage in your book that could serve as evidence for how **Friendship, Family, Freedom** and **Faith** are represented in your book, please annotate at least 25 passages.
3. **You will be graded in 3 parts:** Annotation Grade; Journal Grade; Project Grade

### Part 1 (Annotation Performance Grade) Read and Annotate. (summer)

- I will collect your book when we return to school in August, and you will receive an annotation performance grade.
- 25 Annotations are required
- Annotations should be clearly marked in the text w/ notes in the margins; other tools you can use to annotate include, but are not limited to the following options: underlining, highlighting, notes in the margins, draw arrows and lines, circle words and phrases, and find a way to expand your thoughts onto a well-organized google document, discussed below in **Part 2**.

### Part 2 (Dialectic Journal Grade) Transfer Annotations to Dialectical Journal. (summer)

- As you read and annotate the text, you are tasked with creating a dialectical journal.
- Create a two column google doc; you will need to bring in a physical copy, but there will be an opportunity for you to print this at school over the first few days.
- You should transfer each of your 25 annotations from the book to the left column.

- In the left column, type your passage or quote that you annotated—include page number.
- In the right column, type your commentary, reasoning, or reflection; discuss the significance of the passage: **2-4 sentences will be sufficient for your commentary.** Questions to consider when responding in the right column are listed below:

**–Your commentary should answer one or two of these questions** as it/they pertain to your passage. Also, keep in mind how these questions relate to the four Key Topics. Not everything you annotate or record must relate to the 4 Key Topics, but they can be a starting point for many of you.

- 1) What does the quote reveal about a character, theme, or conflict?
  - 2) Why is this moment important?
  - 3) How does it connect to real-world ideas or historical events?
  - 4) How do the characters in the novel deal with the challenges in their life?
  - 5) What does that say about the human condition?
  - 6) How does the author try to convey the human condition through his/her writing?
  - 7) To what extent does one's experiences and culture shape their view of the world?
  - 8) What role does faith play in the characters' lives?
- See the **sample** dialectical journal attached from *Animal Farm*; style your journal as such.
  - In addition to marking the text for annotations related to the four **Key Topics**, you absolutely can mark any passage that stands out to you.
  - Spread your annotations evenly throughout the book & Include the page numbers.
  - You can use the internet to look at samples of dialectical journals, but any plagiarism, inappropriate use of AI, or any form of cheating will result in a zero for **Part 2**.

### **Part 3 (Book Selection Project) This will be assigned once you return to school (August)**

When you return to school next year, we will discuss your novel selections, and I will assign a project, **so please be prepared.**

\*These texts are fairly quick reads– I do want you to enjoy your summer; **Both books offer an introductory glimpse into other world cultures: Honors English II is dedicated to studying world literature. If you are interested in a challenge or additional reading, here are extra book selections for the summer that I recommend:**

*All the Light We Cannot See* by Anthony Doerr.

*The Glass Castle* by Jeannette Walls

*Thing Fall Apart* by Chinua Achebe

*The Book Thief* by Markus Zusak

*In Order to Live* by Yeonmi Park

Sincerely,

Mrs. Lambert

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## Dialectical Journal Sample

## *Animal Farm* by George Orwell

### Evidence/Quote/ Passage

### Commentary/Response/Reflection

“All animals are equal, but some animals are more equal than others”(112).

This quote is the most obvious example of the pigs' hypocrisy. At the beginning of the story, equality was supposed to be the whole point of the revolution. Now the pigs are twisting language to justify why they have more power, better food, and more privileges than the other animals. Orwell is showing how those in power can manipulate ideals to control others. This reminds me of how political leaders in real life sometimes bend laws or values to serve their own interests.

“Man is the only creature that consumes without producing”(7).

Old Major says this in his speech to convince the animals to rebel. It's a strong statement that shows how the animals see humans as selfish and exploitative. But later in the book, the pigs start acting just like humans—bossing others around and not doing any real work. Orwell uses this line to foreshadow the corruption that comes after the revolution.

“Napoleon is always right”(56).

Boxer, the hardworking horse, repeats this often, showing his blind loyalty. Even when things are clearly getting worse on the farm, he refuses to question Napoleon. This shows how propaganda and fear can stop people from thinking for themselves. It's sad because Boxer is loyal and strong, but he gets taken advantage of. Orwell may be warning readers not to accept authority blindly.