Summer Work for English IV Honors 2019-2020

COURSE OVERVIEW: The English IV Honors curriculum centers on the study of classical, contemporary, and non-fiction literature. Students will work to develop clear, authoritative voices that provide well-supported analyses and arguments. Interaction with other disciplines, life experiences, and world events will also be used to help students connect to literary content.

Students will read, write, and speak about challenging print and non-print texts. This class will foster intellectual curiosity by encouraging students to generate thought-provoking questions and research topics using diverse sources. The course will require students to work as self-directed and reflective learners, both independently and in groups as collaborators.

Oral participation is the final component of this class. Students will be challenged to express their ideas coherently, succinctly, and intelligently through recitations, class discussions, formal presentations, group presentations, and speeches.

PREMISE FOR SUMMER WORK: The goal of this summer assignment is to help prepare students for the type of work that will be required during the school year. English IV Honors allows students to receive an additional point in their grade point average for this class if they earn a qualifying semester grade of C- or above; therefore, students need to be prepared for the rigor of the course. Part of preparing for this course is the completion of the summer work assignment.

OVERVIEW OF SUMMER WORK:
1. Students will review important literary terminology.
2. Students will read one novel. (*One Flew Over the Cuckoo’s Nest* by Ken Kesey)

SUMMER READING ASSIGNMENTS:
1. Literary Terms Review (Refer to the Quizlet at [https://quizlet.com/292382649/ap-english-literature-terms-flash-cards/](https://quizlet.com/292382649/ap-english-literature-terms-flash-cards/)), study the terms, and be prepared for a test on the terms during the first week of school).
2. Read *One Flew Over the Cuckoo’s Nest* by Ken Kesey.
3. Complete a Major Works Data Page (MWDP) for *One Flew Over the Cuckoo’s Nest*. The MWDP can be found on the DBHS summer work page at a link named “AP Lit/3H MWDP”. This link also includes directions for filling out each section of the MWDP. Print the MWDP and hand write your responses. NO TYPED MWDPs will be accepted.
4. THINK QUESTIONS for *One Flew Over the Cuckoo’s Nest* can be found in this document and should guide your reading of the work and prepare you for the first few weeks of the course.
5. We have also included a reading guide at the end of this document for *One Flew Over the Cuckoo’s Nest*. The reading guide is optional.

SUMMER READING ASSIGNMENTS DUE DATES: ALL summer assignments are due on the first full day of school.

SUMMER READING ASSESSMENTS: The first week of school, students will have a test on the literary terms AND *One Flew Over the Cuckoo’s Nest* (The latter test will be a reading check
test, i.e. did you read it? Do you know the literary terms?) During the **first week** of school, students will write an in-class essay for *One Flew Over the Cuckoo’s Nest*.

**SOURCES FOR SUMMER READING WORK:** Students can find *One Flew Over the Cuckoo’s Nest* at the LINC, public library, or for purchase at bookstores or online.

**Plagiarism**

Students must complete their own work on all parts of summer work; this is not a group project. Assignments that are similar indicate a lack of original thought, which will be construed as plagiarism and will result in a zero for the entire assignment. Do not share your work with others.

A note about missing class during the first week of school: **ALL** students are responsible for submitting assignments on time during the first week of school. Being absent due to a school activity or an extended summer vacation is **NOT** an excuse for being unaware of due dates. Students are expected to contact their teacher prior to the first day of school to ask to be excused from class and to verify due dates.

If you have any questions about summer work, you may contact Mrs. Crane at scrane@wvusd.k12.ca.us.

**SUMMER DOCUMENTS/ASSIGNMENTS:** See the following pages for additional documents.
Think Questions for *One Flew Over the Cuckoo’s Nest*

Use the following questions as a guide for your reading of the novel. The questions will be the basis for class discussions about the novel and a written assignment to be given later.

**Note:** We will not collect your responses to these questions. However, we STRONGLY recommend that you use these questions as a guide for your reading and understanding of the novel. Furthermore, these questions will be an important part of our class discussions and assignments in the fall.

1. What are the strengths and weaknesses of Kesey's use of Chief Bromden as narrator in the book? Think about the following:
   - Why is Chief Bromden the narrator instead of McMurphy?
   - Who is the protagonist of the novel?
   - How would the story differ if McMurphy served as the narrator?

2. To what extent do the Chief’s visions symbolically reinforce the themes of the novel?

3. Analyze and discuss the motif of power in this novel. Who has it? How it is used? Think about the following:
   - What are the outcomes and consequences?
   - What is Kesey's purpose for incorporating this theme?

4. *One Flew Over the Cuckoo’s Nest* has been criticized for its treatment of race and gender. Do you agree with this criticism? Why?

5. How does McMurphy’s character transform from the beginning of the *One Flew Over the Cuckoo’s Nest*, when he is checked into the hospital, to the end of the novel? Think about the following:
   - Do his values change?
   - How do his relationships with the other patients change his worldview?
Part I

Reading #1: pages 9-41 (32 pages)
1. List all the information you learn about the narrator of the novel. What seems to be his main problems? What is the fog “rolling in” a metaphor for?
2. What is the narrator’s perception of the Nurse? Of the Black boys? How are these perceptions cartoon-like or “unreal”?
3. Describe McMurphy’s physical attributes as well as personality and behavior. What makes him a “different kind” of admission?
4. Define what is an Acute and what is a Chronic on the ward floor. List the patients that fit into each category, along with a description/characteristic that will help you remember who they are.
5. Discuss the significance of the discussion regarding the “head bull goose loony.”
6. Nurse Ratched calls McMurphy a “manipulator.” Is this accurate? Provide three examples to support your opinion. Why is she concerned about him?
7. Who is Mr. Taber, and why is he considered a “success”? Why would the Nurse’s eyes “get far-off and pleased with the memory” when she thinks about Mr. Taber?
8. What is the Combine? What is the relationship of Nurse Ratched, McMurphy, and the Chief to the Combine?
9. How does Big Nurse maintain her control over the ward? What “methods” does she use? Why has she chosen the people she works with (black boys and Dr. Spivey)?
10. What is her real goal, concerning the patients? What constitutes a successful Dismissal?

Reading #2: pages 42-69 (27 pages)
1. Why hasn’t Chief let himself get totally lost in the fog?
2. What information about McMurphy does Nurse Ratched reveal during Group Therapy?
3. Nurse Ratched gives Pete a shot. Is this necessary? Why does she do it? Why is he “beyond the reach of the machine”?
4. What goes on during Group Therapy? What is its function? Explain Big Nurse’s “plan of attack.” Connect the words “emasculate” and “matriarchy” to group therapy.
5. How does McMurphy describe the session? How is McMurphy more helpful than a group therapy session?
6. Harding initially states, “The staff desires our cure as much as we do. They aren’t monsters” (Kesey 56). Does Harding really believe this? Discuss why he lies.
7. Why does Harding state they are all rabbits? Why is the Dr. also a rabbit? How do the animal references relate to the type of therapy that is/is not taking place?
8. McMurphy claims, “This ain’t the Middle Ages. There’s not a thing in the world that she can [do]” (63). Is this true? How is this statement ironic? Why don’t the men just punch Big Nurse or tell her off?
9. List any examples of Christ imagery and/or religious references in this section.
10. What bet does McMurphy make with the men on the ward? Why does he do this? What makes McMurphy think he has “an edge” on the nurse? Does he?
11. What is Nurse Ratched’s (modern matriarchy’s) one weakness?
Reading #3: pages 70-101 (31 pages)
1. How does Chief describe time passing? How do the clocks work?
2. What is bothering McMurphy that no one else seems to notice?
3. Why does McMurphy let the men win at cards eventually? (two reasons)
4. Why does the nurse with the birthmark tell McMurphy: “Stay back, I’m Catholic!” (76). Explain the humor in this line. Why is her reaction ironic or inappropriate?
5. Describe the boxer shorts that McMurphy receives from the literary major (student). What literary allusion and symbolism can you connect to the shorts?
6. What has McMurphy discovered about Chief? How does he discover this?
7. Describe Chief’s night fantasy. What reality is woven into his dream/vision?
8. Explain why the Chief calls the night orderly by his name (Mr. Turkle), while he only refers to the day orderlies as the “Black boys.”
9. How is McMurphy like Pete? (consider their relationship with the Combine)
10. Describe the toothpaste incident and the questions McMurphy asks. What insights into Mac’s character can we gain from this incident? Who is truly sane/crazy?
11. Even though she does eventually regain her composure, what upsets Nurse Ratched the most about McMurphy (and his behavior) this morning? Why? What truly significant event (that occurred overnight) is ignored?
12. Describe McMurphy’s “relationship” with the doctor? What minor victory do he and McMurphy achieve? What does Chief realize about the nurse and the Combine that McMurphy does not?

Reading #4: pages 102-128 (27 pages)
1. Describe the Monopoly game. What do we learn about McMurphy’s personality?
2. What does McMurphy want to have a vote on? Why does the nurse object to his idea? What happens that upsets McMurphy with regards to the vote?
3. Why does McMurphy make a bet that he can lift the control panel (a bet that he most likely knows he will lose)?
4. What real life event does the Chief get the fog idea from? Discuss the advantages and disadvantages of being “lost in the fog.”
5. Explain how the word “matriarchy” applies to Billy Bibbit’s mom. When does he first begin to stutter?
6. What was the “cactus-moon” that affected Chief’s father?
7. What does McMurphy say he want to do again at group therapy? Why? How does Chief help McMurphy?
8. What does Big Nurse do to sabotage their World Series plans? Explain how McMurphy still wins in the end. How does McMurphy’s victory make the men more masculine?
9. Explain why Big Nurse loses her cool and what this means for McMurphy.
10. Explain the irony of this quote: “If somebody’d of come in and took a look, men watching a blank TV, a fifty-year-old woman hollering and squealing at the back of their heads about discipline and order and recriminations, they’d of thought the whole bunch was a crazy as loons” (128). Consider: Who is sane? Who is crazy?
Part II

Reading #5: pages 129-151 (22 pages)
1. What is Chief worried about now (after he helped to sway the vote)?
2. Describe what happens at the Staff Meeting. What do the doctor and the orderlies consider doing with McMurphy? Why does Big Nurse disagree with them?
3. Reread the last paragraph on page 137. What does Big Nurse realize about McMurphy himself and his situation at the hospital?
4. Reread page 140. What most amazes Chief about McMurphy? What is he able to do that most of the other guys in the ward cannot?
5. Describe what the Chief sees and thinks as he stands at the open window looking out at the moon (138-144). Why is this behavior unusual for the Chief? Explain the significance or symbolism of the geese, the dog, and the car that Chief sees/hears out the window. How might the dog’s behavior foreshadow future events in the novel?
6. What does McMurphy learn from the lifeguard at the swimming pool? How and why does this change his behavior? Who does he not support? (Be specific.)
7. How do Big Nurse, Chief Bromden, and Cheswick feel about the changes in McMurphy’s behavior? Why does each feel the way that he/she does?

Reading #6: pages 151-173 (22 pages)
1. What happens to Sefelt? Why? How does Fredrickson react to it? How are both “damned if they do and damned if they don’t” take their medicine (Dilantin)?
2. Describe Harding’s wife. What do you think of her? Why? How do she and her husband get along/treat each other? What insinuations does she make about Harding?
3. McMurphy sets forth a personal philosophy during the discussion after Harding’s wife’s visit (159). What is his idea? How does this relate to the way he treats the guys in the ward? Provide specific examples.
4. After Harding’s wife leaves, McMurphy starts to get angry and withdrawn: “Quit bugging me, goddammit.” After, he snaps at Martini, and when he tries to shuffle and cut a deck of cards, they seem to “explode between his two trembling hands” (160-161). What’s wrong with Mack? Why does he feel/act this way?
5. As the Acutes sit on the bench waiting for chest X-rays, what does McMurphy learn about the types of inhumane “treatments” that have/do go on in the hospital?
6. What reason/explanation does McMurphy give the men as to why he won’t be their “savior”? How does McMurphy misunderstand the patients’ reasons for wanting him to do battle with Nurse Ratched?
7. Why don’t the “voluntary” patients leave the hospital? How does this show that the men are worse off than McMurphy originally thought?
8. Why does Big Nurse insist on punishing the men by taking away their game room?
9. What does McMurphy do as retaliation against Big Nurse? Why is she so shocked?
10. Why do you suppose McMurphy decides to fight? How is McMurphy’s rebellion at the end of Part 2 different from his rebellious actions in Part 1?

Part III

Reading #7: pages 174-195 (21.5 pages)
1. Give examples of the way McMurphy attempts to upset Big Nurse.
2. How does Nurse Ratched oppose McMurphy’s plans for the fishing trip?
3. Which members of the ward are starting to act “stronger” (more like McMurphy)? Describe their actions/achievements.
4. How does the Chief react to the fishing proposal?
5. How do the Chief’s recollections of his childhood explain his pretending to be deaf and dumb? What do we learn about Chief’s past?
6. What prompts the Chief to speak? What happens after he begins to talk?
7. Explain how Chief sees himself and why he says his father is the same way. What does the Chief mean when he says he is smaller than McMurphy?
8. What does Chief “warn” McMurphy about?
9. Describe the deal McMurphy makes with the Chief. How does Chief “rebel” the next morning?
10. Describe how McMurphy gets George to sign up for the fishing trip. Why do they need him to go?

Reading #8: pages 195-218 (22.5 pages)
1. How does the ward react to the arrival of Candy Starr?
2. List/describe all the problems/obstacles McMurphy encounters with regards to the fishing trip, and explain how he overcomes each one.
3. Describe the religious/Christ imagery in this section of the novel.
4. Describe the incident at the gas station. How do the attendants try to take advantage of the men, and how do they finally gain the upper hand?
5. How do the men react when the loafers in the town insult Candy Starr? Find a quote that supports how they feel.
6. Describe the fishing outing in general; then focus on two scenes that you see as significant and/or amusing.
7. How has this fishing trip changed the men? Provide specific examples of how Billy, Harding, Chief, and George change/grow.
8. How do the loafers treat the men when they return from their trip? How do you account for this change?
9. Why does McMurphy take the men to his childhood home and tell them the story of his first sexual encounter?
10. What is happening to McMurphy, emotionally and physically, as the other men get stronger? What toll have his actions (on behalf of the men) taken on him?

Reading #9: pages 219-241 (22 pages)
1. At the start of this section, Big Nurse renews her attack against McMurphy. What does she claim about McMurphy?
2. What do the men think of Nurse Ratched’s accusation/suggestion (about McMurphy)? Find a line that describes their feelings (220-226). Do they all agree? Who doesn’t?
3. When Mack wins big money from Chief’s lifting the control panel, he really loses. Explain why. How does McMurphy react to the Chief’s charge that McMurphy is “always . . . winning things”? (226).
4. Mack gains back the confidence of the Acutes in the showers. How? Why does McMurphy start the fight in the shower room? Why does the Chief join him?
5. Describe the atmosphere in Disturbed. How are things/people different from the other ward?


7. Discuss the option Nurse Ratched offers McMurphy (with regards to his shock therapy). Why does he make the choice(s) that he does?

8. Describe what happens to Mack and the Chief during their shock treatment(s). What memories flash through Chief’s mind?

9. From where does the title of the novel originate? Decide on whom the “one” is who “flew over the cuckoo’s nest” and the one who is “plucked out.” (Refer to class outline handout)

**Reading #10: pages 242-272 (30 pages)**

1. How is Chief changing? What is odd about his return to the ward?

2. Describe Billy’s relationship with his mother? What is/is not unusual about it?

3. Give examples of the fun the men have on the ward the night of Sandy and Candy’s visit. What rules are broken? Why doesn’t McMurphy seem concerned?

4. What was Mr. Turkle supposed to do at 6:00 am? When the Nurse comes back on that morning, what does McMurphy have a chance to do? Why does he pass it up?

5. How do the men react to Big Nurse when she discovers their escapades? How have they changed?

6. Why does Billy commit suicide? (Give two reasons.) Who is at fault here?

7. The Chief says nobody could have stopped McMurphy from attacking Big Nurse. Why not? Explain why McMurphy attacks Big Nurse and the importance of the way he does it.

8. What changes occur on the ward after McMurphy is removed? Who finally leaves and why? (Discuss characters who grow stronger, and provide specific examples of how.)

9. What’s McMurphy like after they bring him back to the ward from the Shock Shop? Describe how the acutes act towards him and why?

10. Why must Chief do what he has to do at the end? Would you have done the same if you were in his shoes? Explain.

11. In the end, who “wins”? How do you know?