



SAINT IGNATIUS

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May 1, 2022

Dear Students of Honors English III,

This summer the English Department is requesting that you spend some time engaged in summer reading. Please read below for information relative to your assigned summer reading title.

Honors English III

The Hollow Hills by Mary Stewart (physical copies only; no eTexts)

In addition to reading this novel, you are asked to engage in some annotation practice. This practice will include defining words you do not know in the margins and thinking about thematic elements of the text:

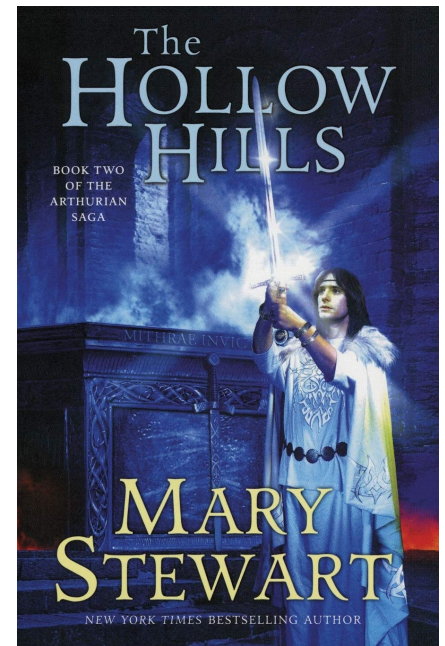
- When you come across a word for which you do not know the meaning, place a BOX around it and, in the margins of the text, provide the *best, contextual* definition;
- As you read, continue to ask yourself, "What is the author trying to teach me here?" and "What am I supposed to learn here?" Do so, especially, when you come across important moments in the book. The margins of your pages should include your *attempt* to answer these questions throughout each chapter, but especially at the end of each chapter.

The annotation of your novel will be one of the first grades of the year. Furthermore, it will be the basis for our first essay of the year.

Reach out with any questions you may have. Enjoy your summer and your summer reading! I look forward to meeting you.

Availability

Books will be distributed to students by their sophomore English teacher during the final week of school. Alternatively, you can contact our Department Head, Casey Yandek. Please be sure to have a copy of the text with you during the opening weeks of school. E-books are also acceptable.



Summer Reading Assessment

Students should be prepared to complete a summer reading assessment during the opening weeks of school.

Active Reading Strategies

The English Department recommends that students keep a reading journal and/or that they annotate their personal copies of their assigned summer reading text. An effective active reading process may include:

Recording chapter summaries. Take some time at the end of each chapter to write, in your own words, what the chapter was about.

Annotating while reading. Make notes on important events, character developments, symbols, use of literary elements, and your own observations.

Asking critical thinking questions. What questions do you have after reading your book? What are the issues, viewpoints, and themes of the book? How does the content of this book apply to your life or the lives of others?

We hope that the summer break provides you with some time to rest, reflect, and prepare for the new academic year at Saint Ignatius High School.

Sincerely,

Mr. Thomas Yarcusko '12
Honors English III Instructor