

## Summer Reading Extra Credit English III/IV: World Cultures

Welcome to World Cultures 2022-23! If you have signed up for this course, you can earn extra credit for next year by completing the summer reading. We give this **OPTIONAL** assignment for two reasons:

- 1) It helps thematically frame our coming course, so that students are ready to make connections on the first days of school, and
- 2) It helps to keep students reading and thinking during the summer. We completely agree that we all need a break, but reading and analysis skills are such an integral part of this course that keeping some low-level engagement even through the summer is incredibly beneficial.

This assignment is not a product-based assignment. It's not about going to Michael's or Hobby Lobby and spending a lot of money on something that will end up in a trash can by the end of the first quarter. This assignment is about engaging in reading, broadening your knowledge, and preparing to develop your analysis skills.

### To earn the extra credit, you will need to do the following:

1. **Read the Book.** Our summer reading will be *The Giver* by Lois Lowry. You can easily find this book in many forms: as a library book, used book, audio book, e-book, or new book.
  - a. Take notes over the key points of each chapter. These **notes will not be graded**, but they will be invaluable to you as a study tool for the test over the book and as we go through the year. There will be an open-ended question on the test relating to the concepts of this book.
  - b. As you read, pay attention to the following themes: memory, tradition and rituals, change and the duality of human experience (bad/good, happy/sad, pleasure/pain)

2. **Pass the Verbal Exam.** When students return back to school, those who read over the summer will need to pass a verbal exam. Students will come in during tutorials and have a one-on-one discussion/interview over the book. Teachers will use this interview to determine if students are prepared to participate in the next step and thereby earn the extra credit. Students are welcome to bring their novel and any handwritten notes into the verbal exam.

3. **Participate in Discussions.** Once late August rolls around, we will host four discussions during power hour. Students will need to participate in TWO of the four discussions for credit. More details on the format and scheduling of these discussions will be shared in August.

**Students who successfully complete all steps of the extra credit will be able to replace any Q1 or Q2 major grade (student choice) with a 100.**

If you have any questions, you may email Mrs. Buck ([kelly.gunn@sunnyvaleisd.com](mailto:kelly.gunn@sunnyvaleisd.com)) or Mrs. Bales ([camille.bales@sunnyvaleisd.com](mailto:camille.bales@sunnyvaleisd.com)). Please keep in mind that your teachers are also on summer break and may not be checking email regularly. If you have any questions, it would be best not to wait until the end of the summer to ask them.