

## 2018-2019 English 4 and Honors English 4 Summer Assignment

The summer assignment is as follows. If the **completed** assignments are turned in on **August 10**, the first day of class, students will receive bonus points. All assignments must be turned in by **August 24** in order to receive a grade.

If you have any questions, please contact one of the following English 4 or Honors English 4 teachers:

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Students will read the following short stories that are available in pdf format on the internet. For **each** story, students are required to thoroughly answer the following questions using complete sentences and evidence when applicable. You may type or handwrite the assignment. *This is an individual assignment. Plagiarized work will not be accepted and will receive a score of zero.*

**"Where Are You Going, Where Have You Been?" by Joyce Carol Oates**

**"The Yellow Wallpaper" by Charlotte Perkins Gilman**

**"Harrison Bergeron" by Kurt Vonnegut**

1. Who is the protagonist of the story? What are the conflicts? Are they physical, intellectual, moral, or emotional? Is the main conflict between sharply differentiated good and evil, or is it more subtle and complex?
2. How is suspense created in the story? Is the interest confined to "What happens next?" or are larger concerns involved? Can you find examples of mystery or dilemma?
3. What is the climax of the story? The turning point? Are they one and the same? What change, if any, does the climax bring about?
4. What point of view does the story use? Is it consistent in its use of this point of view? If shifts are made, are they justified?
5. What is the theme of this story? What is the central idea? Does the theme reinforce or oppose popular notions of life? Does it furnish a new insight or deepen an old one?
6. Is the primary interest of the story in plot, character, theme, or some other element? What evidence do you have to support your answer?
7. What contribution to the story is made by the setting? Is the particular setting essential, or could the story have happened anywhere?
8. What are the characteristics of the author's style? Give an example. Are they appropriate to the nature of the story?