

3A Reading Assignment
Denman

Please understand that by electing to take an honors level course I expect honors level work. I will be looking for students that demonstrate critical thinking, initiative and take academic risks.

Reading Assignment:

Beowulf: A New Verse Translation (Seamus Heaney translation)
Grendel (John Gardner)

Please choose one other book from below:

1. *Oliver Twist* (Dickens)
2. *The Fountainhead* (Rand)

Writing Assignment:

1. Please compare the world as seen through the eyes of *Beowulf* and *Grendel*. Please make sure in this compare and contrast essay that you have an arguable thesis statement that does not summarize the book. Please include support in the form of quotes from the novel within your body paragraphs.
2. Please compare and contrast the treatment of the hero and the monster in *Beowulf* and *Grendel*. Please make sure you have an arguable thesis statement and support and text from the novel within your body paragraphs.

Please have the essay ready for the first day of school. Essay should be typed, twelve point font, Times New Roman. Hard copies only; DO NOT EMAIL!

Rubric:

I will be looking for the following:

1. original and clear thesis statement
2. inclusion of quotes within body paragraphs
3. analysis of quotes and text that help to further and prove your argument
4. clear transitions and organization

Please do not wait until the last minute to read both books and complete the essay. This will serve as your first grade for the marking period and your first impression.

If you have any questions or run into problems you may email me over the summer at: denmanc@kinnelon.org.

Have a safe and academic summer!