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**School District U-46**

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Dear Incoming Sophomore Honors Students,

Welcome to the Sophomore Honors English program. We want to work together with you to make sure you get off to a productive start. This course will familiarize you with our Honors program and prepare you for your future participation in the Advanced Placement program during your junior and senior years of high school. The summer reading assignment is intended to begin this process.

**Over the summer you will be asked to read and analyze two different works.** Students will be asked to read one piece of required non-fiction and one independent selection of fiction. You will find the selected choices and the corresponding summer work on the attached pages. **The required reading of Elie Wiesel's *Night* was selected to prepare each student for reading and discussion at the honors/AP level.** You will be expected to come to class on the first day fully prepared to discuss and analyze this text with your classmates. For your independent selection of fiction, you will be able to choose **one option** from a list of three texts—they are provided to give each student choice in their own summer reading. The selected options are designed to expose you to text that will both challenge and introduce you to the expectations of reading and analysis throughout the course.

We suggest that you go to the library or your local bookstore early in the summer to be sure you get the titles that you are most interested in. The best way to ensure you get the book you would like to read will be to purchase the book, either on-line or from Barnes and Noble.

**In addition to turning in your summer reading assignments, during the first week of classes you will be required to answer several short essay questions in relation to your summer reading. This will be used as a means of assessing your reading comprehension.**

Sophomore Honors English is a challenging course where you will be expected to take the reading and writing expectations seriously. As your honors teachers we will push you to be analytical learners and critical thinkers. Whether it is in writing or discussion, you will be able to distinguish your abilities in the classroom. In class this year, you will become well skilled in analysis through class discussion, analytical essays, Socratic seminars, and a variety of tests and quizzes. Furthermore, we must be clear: this is a writing intensive course and you should anticipate substantial classwork. We look forward to working with you this upcoming year and encourage you to email us if you are puzzled with the summer reading or need any guidance.

See you in August,

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Bartlett High School  
Sophomore Honors English  
Summer Reading

**The novel selections, as well as the essay for each novel, are listed below.** Your essays are due on the first day of school via turnitin.com; however, you may turn them in throughout the semester. You can find instructions for turnitin.com in this packet directly following your assignment. Your Critical Reading Journal will also be due on the first day of school via a notebook. **Your essays must be typed (size 12 Times New Roman font with 1 inch margins) and double spaced.** Each essay can be a maximum of two pages. **Your Critical Reading Journals should consist of Cornell Notes.** Divide your page in half and copy words from the text onto the left side; write your responses on the right. Be sure to be as elaborate and detailed as possible. This will help serve as your guide to ensure that you are reading and comprehending everything adequately, which will eventually help with class discussions and future writing assignments. Journal entries must be in complete sentences; the demands of the sentence draw out your thoughts more fully. Be specific and precise about details you record. Your journal will receive an evaluation based on the thoughtfulness of your analysis. In your Critical Reading Journal, respond to the following:

- **Character Development:** Keep account of how major characters evolve by taking note of their thoughts, actions, and certain events they encounter that affect them.
- **Quotes and Citations:** Write down striking words, images, phrases, or details. Speculate about them. Why did the author choose them? What do they add to the story? Why did you notice them? Make sure you cite page numbers after each quote and paraphrase.
- **Literary Devices:** Find important literary devices (e.g.: inference, figurative language, imagery, syntax, diction, tone, etc.) and provide examples of them. Once again, provide page numbers after each citation.

***Night* by Elie Wiesel**

**Write a well-constructed essay speaking to the prompt below:**

Due to the events Wiesel faces throughout the Holocaust, his character is severely impacted and is ever-changing with every event that he speaks of in his memoir. Pick three quotes from the memoir that you believe depict Wiesel's changing character throughout the text and write an essay on his transformation. These quotes should also depict or connect to an important literary device (e.g. imagery, figurative language, diction, inference, etc.) that helps to demonstrate Wiesel's change in character throughout his memoir, as well.



Bartlett High School  
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Summer Reading

**Independent Fiction Selections** (All Abraham Lincoln Award nominees)

**Please select one of the three novel options as your independent fiction selection. Then, write a well-constructed essay speaking to the prompt below.**

BOOK OPTION 1:

*All the Bright Places* by Jennifer Niven

Outcast Finch and popular Violet meet on the ledge of the bell tower at school, emotionally distraught and teetering on the edge. They end up as unlikely partners for a school project, but it's also their desperate desire to heal and save one another before it's too late.

BOOK OPTION 2:

*Forgive Me, Leonard Peacock* by Matthew Quick

Today is Leonard Peacock's birthday, and it's also the day he hides a gun in his backpack. Today is also the day he will kill his former best friend and then himself with his grandfather's pistol. But first he must say good-bye to the people who matter most to him.

BOOK OPTION 3:

*October Mourning* by Leslea Newman

Told from various points of view from the night of October 6, 1998, when twenty-one-year-old Matthew Shepard, a gay college student, was lured out of a Wyoming bar, savagely beaten, tied to a fence, and left to die.

**THE PROMPT:** In a well written, coherent essay analyze the way in which author Niven, Quick, or Newman proposes and supports a central theme in their novel. You must specifically identify the theme the author proposes in the work and support your argument regarding the theme with concrete, appropriate evidence.

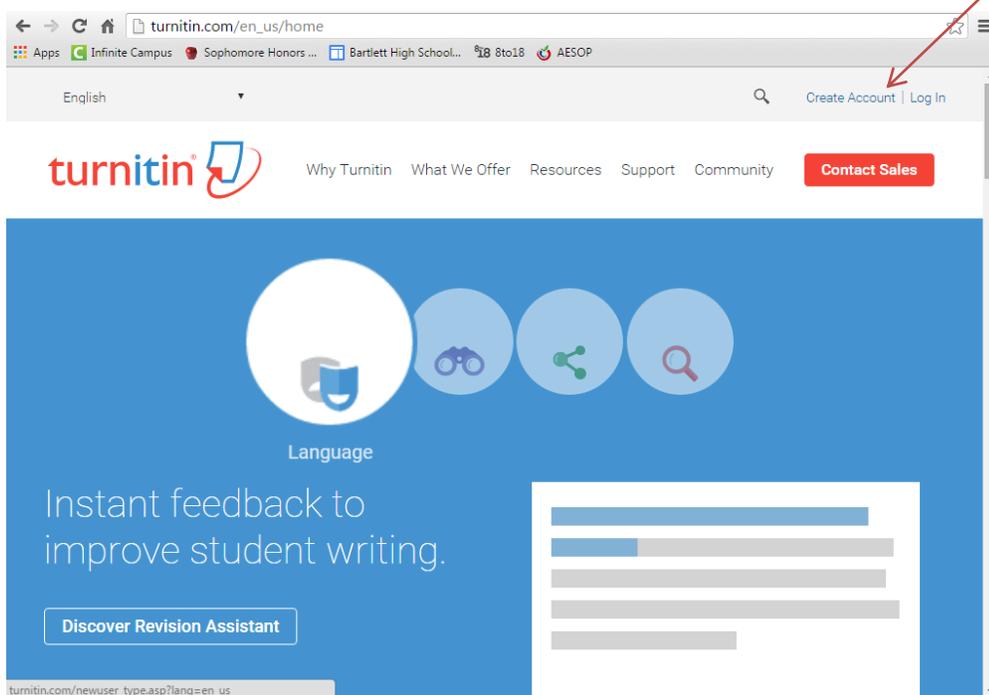


## Bartlett High School Sophomore Honors English Summer Reading

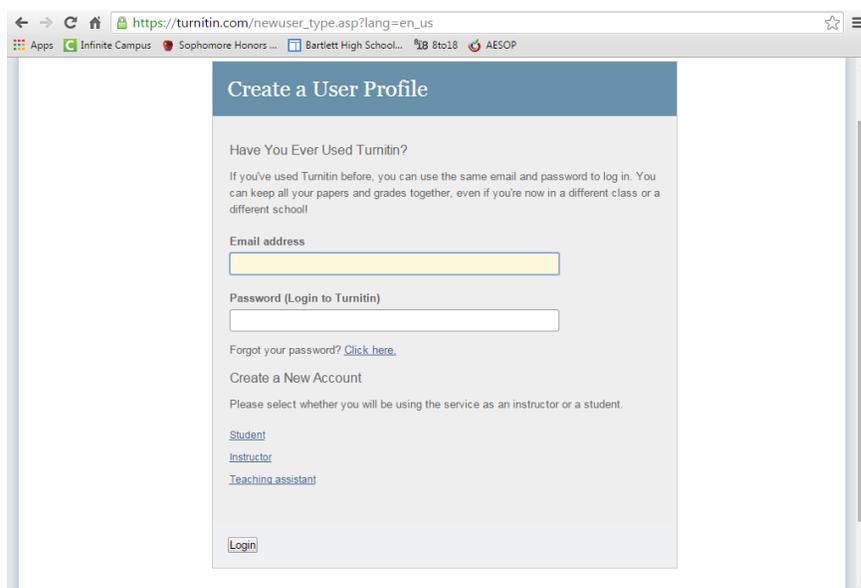
All summer reading assignments must be submitted via [turnitin.com](https://turnitin.com)—you may not submit via email/the Google drive.

Please create a turnitin account if you do not have an account already. Here's how to create an account:

1. Start by visiting the following webpage: [http://turnitin.com/en\\_us/home](http://turnitin.com/en_us/home).
2. Once on the webpage, click “create account” at the top right side of the page.



3. Once you get to the next page begin to create a user profile.





## Bartlett High School Sophomore Honors English Summer Reading

- Once you've complete the page above, the next page will ask for your class ID and the password. Please put in the information below:

**Class created**

Congratulations! You have just created the new class: Summer Reading 2016  
If you would like students to enroll themselves in this class, they will need both the enrollment password you have chosen and the unique class ID generated by Turnitin:

Class ID **12706795**  
Enrollment password **summer2016**

Note: Should you ever forget the class ID, it is the number to the left of the class name on your class list. You can view or change your enrollment password by editing the class.

Click the class name to enter the class and get started creating assignments.

[Continue](#)

- Finish up inputting the information, and click “I agree—create profile.”

**Welcome to turnitin!**

### How to Submit:

- When you are on the homepage click “Summer Reading 2016.”
- Find the name of the assignment (I.e. Night Critical Reading Journal) and click on it and then click the “submit” button.
- Fill out the submission page, upload your assignment, and then click “confirm”
- You should see the following message to ensure you’ve uploaded correctly:

The screenshot shows a web browser window with the URL [https://turnitin.com/t\\_submit.asp?r=26.1819101667136&svr=04&lang=en\\_us&aid=47201708](https://turnitin.com/t_submit.asp?r=26.1819101667136&svr=04&lang=en_us&aid=47201708). The page title is "Submit: Single File Upload" and it is labeled as "STEP 1". A green message box says: "Congratulations - your submission is complete! This is your digital receipt. You can print a copy of this receipt from within the Document Viewer." Below this, the submission details are listed: Author: Nicolette Warczynski; Assignment title: Research Topic Proposal; Submission title: Proposal; File name: APPeerReview.docx; File size: 15.27K; Page count: 2; Word count: 78; Character count: 2221. To the right, there is a preview of the document titled "Research Topic Proposal" with a "Print" button above it.