

English III Honors Juniors Summer Reading 2022-2023

Summer reading for incoming juniors in the Honors section is in three parts. Please be sure to read and complete all three parts of the summer reading assignment. Instructions on how to turn in your work will follow each assignment. The summer reading is worth a significant number of points and preparing in advance will set you up for success in the coming year.

PART I

Read “The Once and Future King” by T.H. White. Be sure to read all four parts of the volume, including “The Sword in the Stone,” “The Queen of Air and Darkness,” “The Ill-Made Knight” and “The Candle in the Wind.”

Complete the attached worksheet labeled “The Once and Future King Marian Worksheet.” Please do not look up your answers online, instead use your reading comprehension to answer the questions. ALL answers should be in complete sentences. **TIP:** Try reading the questions for each book in advance of reading so you know what to look for while reading. Answer questions while the text is fresh in your mind.

Turn in by bringing a physical copy of your work to class on the second day.

PART II

Watch something from the following list of movie and television shows inspired by the legend of King Arthur. At least some of these are available on the major streaming platforms, including Amazon Prime and Netflix. If you choose a television series, watch at least two episodes. If you do not have access to a streaming service, many of these are available on DVD from local libraries.

Possible videos

The Sword in the Stone (Disney)

Cursed (Netflix series)

First Knight

Avalon High

Merlin (BBC series)

Camelot (1967 musical)

King Arthur (2004)

Mists of Avalon (TNT miniseries)

A Connecticut Yankee in King Arthur’s Court

Excalibur

This list is by no means exhaustive. You may choose something that is not on this list as long as it is somehow connected to King Arthur or Camelot and is NOT Monty Python and the Holy Grail.

Write a compare and contrast essay focusing on ONE element of the King Arthur legend that was present in both Once and Future King and your chosen video. How was that element (character, plot device, relationship, etc.) the same and how was it different? Your essay should be at least five paragraphs and clearly identify the movie or television series you watched.

Turn in by saving an electronic copy of your essay on your Google Drive. You will receive instructions on joining our Google Classroom on the first day of class and this will be the first assignment turned in there.

PART III

Read any novel of your choice. Really...any novel you want...have fun.

Record a book talk promoting your book that will be shown to your classmates. Your talk should include the title and author of your book, a brief plot summary (do not give away the ending) and a pitch on why your classmates should read the book for themselves.

For tips, read the attached PDF (How to Give a Book Talk - available by download here <https://drive.google.com/file/d/1Eqc5a8iKyo2ueoVBsjrgXJAQXJIUEnH2/view?usp=sharing>). Here are some examples of book talks on YouTube.

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=W27Bx4bTK2g> Fellowship of the Ring by J.R.R. Tolkein
<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=OFpSltRsKoE> The Giver by Lois Lowry

Turn in by recording your video and saving it either to your Google Drive or your phone. You will receive instructions on how to present it to the class on the first day of our class in person.

FINAL NOTES

Plagiarism is a serious offense, according to Marian's Student Handbook. It may be tempting to look up answers to summer reading questions online on sites such as Sparknotes. Every year, some students try to just copy and paste information gained from such sites. Copying another's work, either a professional or a fellow student, is plagiarism and will result in a 0 for that assignment. Please do your own work. If you are having trouble, feel free to email me at jbrimmer@mariancatholics.org.

SCROLL DOWN for worksheet. You can also download a copy of the worksheet for Google Docs from this link - https://docs.google.com/document/d/1WJt7ad2oLWKwNXWMKRSNaX9_Ugd9wS0MZrBAz2-8NUo/edit?usp=sharing

English III Honors The Once & Future King Summer Reading Project

You may type or write or your answers to the following questions. Written answers should be legible and all answers must be in complete sentences. Bring a physical copy of your work to school on the second day.

BOOK ONE: "The Sword in the Stone"

Chapter Vocabulary Define each of the following by using a dictionary.

1. Chivalry
2. Joust
3. Accord
4. Inclined
5. Obstinate
6. Siege
7. Belligerent
8. Anarchy
9. Benevolent
10. Petulant
11. Vacuous

Chapter Questions Answer each of the following in complete sentences.

1. Identify key characteristics of each of the following characters: Wart, Kay, Sir Ector, Sir Grummore, King Pellinore, Archimedes, Robin Wood, The Questing Beast, Merlyn
2. What is the setting of this portion of the story?
3. Define the term "quest." Why is this important to the characters in the story and humans in general?
4. What bothers Wart about his relationship to Kay and to Sir Ector?
5. How does Wart first meet Merlyn?
6. Describe Merlyn's appearance when Wart first meets him. What untidy habits does he have?
7. How did Merlyn know the Wart before he meets him? What is Merlyn's time issue?
8. What is King Pellinore's family burden to carry?
9. How do the skills/personalities of Wart and Kay differ?
10. How do Sir Grummore and King Pellinore meet? What is the end result of their joust? What is Merlyn's attitude towards knight's jousting, etc.?

11. What happens during Kay's adventure?
12. How do King Pellinore and the Questing Beast need each other? What happens to the Questing Beast and how is he restored?
13. How was Sir Ector a great/compassionate leader?
14. In the 6 years Merlyn has been at the castle, how have things changed? How has Merlyn changed in contrast?
15. What strange theory does Badger teach Wart about creation/evolution? How does Badger view man as compared to other animals?
16. In the closing chapters of Book One, what is happening in Kay's life; what has happened to the King of England, and how is Wart's destiny being realized?
17. The very last paragraphs of Book One reveal what about Wart's heritage?
18. Name the four main animals/birds Wart was turned into and the lessons learned.

BOOK TWO: "The Queen of Air and Darkness"

Chapter Vocabulary Define each of the following using a dictionary.

1. Faction
2. Feud
3. Heresy
4. Stoic
5. Duplicity
6. Calamity
7. Doggedly
8. Anachronism
9. Necromancer

Chapter Questions Answer each of the following using complete sentences.

1. Identify and describe the four children shown in Chapter 1.
2. Who is their mother, and how does she treat them?
3. Who was the boys' grandmother? What happened to her?
4. Who else was a child of the Countess of Cornwall?

5. How is Arthur described in Chapter 2?
6. How do Merlyn's and Arthur's view of war differ? What amusing habit does Merlyn have when he's frustrated?
7. What is the problem between England and Ireland? (The Gaels and the Galls?)
8. What lesson does Merlyn want to teach the young king? How is this different from the chivalry of his father Uther Pendragon?
9. Who are the Cornwall Sisters, and why are they dangerous? Which one has Arthur encountered already?
10. At the end of Chapter 3, what do we find out about Merlyn's ancestry?
11. Arthur comes to a revelation about why Merlyn is helping him win battles. What is it, and what does he plan to do about it?
12. Why does Arthur determine the table must be round? Who is the first knight chosen?
13. In Chapter 12, King Arthur's battle plan is completely different than King Lot's. What is the key difference (very untraditional)?
14. At the end of Chapter 14, Merlyn is far away when he remembers what he has forgotten to tell Arthur. What key piece of information is Arthur missing?
15. Who is the Queen of Air and Darkness, and how does she bring about Arthur's tragic downfall?

BOOK THREE: "The Ill-Made Knight"

Chapter Vocabulary Define each of the following using a dictionary.

1. Tenacious
2. Eccentric
3. Reticent
4. Dogmatic
5. Perfidy
6. Disconsolate
7. Alienate
8. Complacent
9. Ravenous

Chapter Questions Answer each of the following using complete sentences.

1. Who is the “Ill-Made Knight,” and where does he live as a boy? How old is he when he receives “the calling” to be a knight of the Round Table?
2. At the close of Chapter 1, two similes are used to describe Lancelot’s appearance. What are they?
3. What is Lancelot’s dream for his life, as identified at the close of Chapter 2?
4. In Chapter 3, Merlyn visits with Lancelot’s mother. What important information does he give them? What does this prompt Lancelot to do?
5. This is one of the last times we see Merlyn. Who is he with, and where does he go? What do we eventually find out happens to him?
6. At the opening of Chapter 4, why is Lancelot upset?
7. With whom, does he have his first joust? Who is it really?
8. Who are the first two people to realize Lancelot and Guinevere were falling in love? How did they respond?
9. At the close of Chapter 5, the tragic flaw of naiveté is seen in both Lancelot and Arthur. Explain what this means based on their decisions.
10. What did Lancelot have all his captives do while he was away from Arthur and Guinevere?
11. Lancelot’s 2nd Quest caused him great grief for the rest of his life. What was the miracle he worked, and how was he “tricked” into losing the “power” to work any others?
12. Why did Lancelot finally give into his feelings for Guinevere and commit adultery with her?
13. How does Arthur characterization explain his reaction to Lancelot and Guinevere’s relationship?
14. What drove Lancelot mad? How long was he lost, and how was he found?
15. Lancelot had promised he would return, but how many years have passed since he left? How do the younger knights now view him, Arthur, and Guinevere?
16. Who are the two newest knights to come to Arthur’s court? How are the two boys viewed differently?
17. What actions of Mordred, Agravaine and Gawaine dishonor the Round Table?

18. What realization about the Round Table prompts the Quest for the Holy Grail?
19. Who was allowed to capture the Holy Grail, and why will they not return?
20. In the closing chapters of Book 3, how does Lancelot save Guinevere twice? How does Arthur's new way of governing contribute to this problem?

BOOK FOUR: "The Candle in the Wind"

Chapter Vocabulary Define each of the following using a dictionary.

1. Conciliatory
2. Atrophy
3. Menagerie
4. Vernacular
5. Misogynist
6. Halidome
7. Tumulus
8. Miasma
9. Comely

Chapter Questions Answer each of the following questions using complete sentences.

1. Look back at the close of Book 3. What did God allow Lancelot to do? What was his response? How did Agravaine and Mordred respond to the situation?
2. In the opening of Book 4, how were Agravaine & Mordred described? Who does each of them want revenge against?
3. In Chapter 4, we see a much older Lancelot and Guinevere. How has Lancelot's ugliness been transformed?
4. What reasons does Guinevere give for not running away with Lancelot?
5. How does Arthur gently warn Lancelot & Guinevere to behave?
6. What does Arthur tell Lancelot he must never do no matter what?
7. In Chapter 5, the Orkney brothers face off against Arthur and each other in the Justice Room. What are the arguments made by each brother, and how do they act toward the King?
8. What are the "implications" as outlined by Arthur for all parties involved if Mordred and Agravaine continue with their accusations?
9. What tragic flaw is evident in Lancelot's interaction with Gareth?

10. How must Arthur apply justice now? What does Arthur expect/hope will happen?
11. What do Gareth and Gaheris agree to do? What is the outcome for them?
12. What plan do Lancelot and Guinevere come up with to end the war with Arthur?
13. Describe the final scene between Lancelot, Arthur and Guinevere.
14. Who has been left in charge while Arthur is away? How does he treat Guinevere, and what does he threaten?
15. At the close of Chapter 12, what is happening between Mordred and Guinevere? Who, surprisingly, calls Lancelot to the rescue?
16. What sign is there that Arthur has not given up on his high ideals for government? What does he ask the page to do?
17. What is the candle a metaphor for? Why do you think White chose a candle?

HOW TO GIVE A BOOKTALK

[OPENING]

Hook your audience!

Read a quote from the book, ask a question of your audience,
introduce the main character, vividly set the scene,
or do a combination of a few of these techniques.

Make sure to also give the title and author of the book.

[SUMMARY]

In a paragraph or two, summarize the plot of the book.

Be sure that your summary introduces the main character, identifies
the problem, and leads us toward the solution--
without giving away the ending!

[IMPRESSION]

Share your opinion!

How did you feel about the book?
What did you think of the author?
Would you recommend it to others?
What would you rate it?

[CLOSING]

Entice your audience!

Ask a rhetorical question, read a quote from the book, use a
cliffhanger, or do a combination of these techniques.

*Remember, your book talk should flow nicely, like a commercial.
It should not be a giant list answering these questions!*