

**Hillgrove High School English Department**  
**Honors 9<sup>th</sup> Literature Pre-Course Reading 2017-2018**

To help establish the necessary foundations and facilitate initial classroom instruction for both honors and AP level classes, each student is required to complete a pre-course reading assignment prior to the start of their English class next year. This reading requirement is different than traditional summer reading in that the text(s) will be an integral part of the semester curriculum, specifically the first unit of study. There will be multiple graded assignments based on the assigned pre-course reading rather than one stand-alone assessment of your reading. **It is imperative that students have a copy of the required text the FIRST week of the semester.** Teachers will provide more information regarding curriculum implementation of these texts at the start of the class.

**Reading Assignments**

*Read the assigned text(s) for the Honors 9<sup>th</sup> Literature course you are taking in the 2017-2018 school year before the start of the semester. Additional assignments and/or guidance for your reading are provided on the following pages.*

**9<sup>th</sup> Grade Honors Literature and Composition**

*Color of Water by James McBride*

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**As you read you will complete a double-entry journal for each chapter. Information on how to complete this journal is below.**

A double-entry journal is a note-taking strategy for actively reading a text. In your journal, you can connect your own experiences to those of the characters, share your opinions about what is happening, trace the development of the characters, and comment on the writer’s choices that create the voice of the narrator.

In the left column (“Trigger Text”), copy or summarize passages that trigger your thoughts in some way, citing the page number and the quotation. In the right column, write your thoughts about the passage or some element of the narrative (character, plot, theme, voice, etc.).

If you are having trouble thinking of what to write, try using these stems:

- I really like/ dislike this part because...
- I wonder why.... ?
- The diction (word choice)/ imagery creates a tone of ...
- I predict that...
- This reminds me of the time when I ..
- If it was me, I would ...
- This is similar to Ruth/ James’s story because...

**\*\* Write at least one entry per chapter, but you may write as many as you like. Try to vary the types of responses you give by focusing on different reactions you have to different parts of the text.**

Trigger Text (The book says...)	Analysis/ Question/ Opinion (I say ...)