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**Dr. Bruno’s Homework Policy**

**Independent Reading:**

There is one assignment that is a given everyday. That is, you are required to read your book every evening for a minimum of 30 minutes. You will be responsible for reading ***25 books*** this year. The requirement to read every night is established in part to help you meet this requirement, but also to help you develop the habit of taking time each day to read for pleasure. Please note, the 30-minute minimum is simply a suggestion and you may need to be adjust that number upward to accommodate your reading speed. Additionally, there have been a number of times in the past that students have told me they were unable to read for 30 minutes the evening before because, as they put it, "I had too much homework!" I am sure you can see the irony in this, and while the irony might make me smile, the excuse is unacceptable.

**The Q or Q:**

Additionally, you will almost always have a ***Q or Q*** (Question or Quotation). Be sure to do this assignment as thoughtfully and seriously as you can. The Q or Q is an opportunity to analyze text, listen critically to other perspectives, and develop the habit of critical thought. Take this assignment seriously and do it to the best of your ability. You are NOT permitted to write, “I didn’t get it.” You need to work until you do ‘get it.’ Whether you are stuck or not, invite your parents and family members to join you. Pick their brains and debate the merits of each interpretation. It is the fastest way to get really smart!

**Writing:**

The art of ***revising*** and ***editing*** your writing will be a major focus this year. You will often be assigned the task of using the information you have garnered in class that day to write the next draft of your current paper. When it comes to writing, you need to know that:

***A PAPER IS NEVER DONE,IT IS SIMPLY DUE.***

My expectation is that you will be writing and rewriting your paper until you hand it in, because with every draft it will get better. While there is the requirement of a minimum of *4 drafts* for each major paper (along with *1 self assessment* and *1 peer assessment*), there is no maximum!!! So keep writing.

When a paper is due, I expect you to ***print your paper at home and have it ready to submit to me when you enter my class.*** There are times, however, when you are unable to print your paper at home. If that is the case, then ***you are responsible*** for going to the LMC before school and printing your paper. Do not wait until my class to print your paper. There will not be time for you to do that.

**Shared Reading:**

I believe STRONGLY that homework should be authentic and purposeful. You will rarely see a textbook or a worksheet. You will, however, see a lot of texts, both fiction and non-fiction that you will need to read and annotate in preparation for a class discussion that will follow. The ability to ***annotate text*** well is a life skill that will serve you not only this year, but throughout your academic career and beyond.

**Vocabulary and Grammar:**

We will be placing an emphasis on ***Vocabulary and Grammar*** this year. Yes, you will need to, once and for all, name and identify parts of speech. You will learn to define and diagram sentences, use commas correctly, and a host of other helpful rules that govern the proper use of English. If you are of the mind that you need only memorize this information in order to pass the quiz, let me make this clear. My quizzes will be cumulative, meaning you will need to know the information for every quiz. That is why, when I give you time in class to review your notes and vocabulary, you should definitely take advantage of the opportunity.

**Responsibility:**

Additional homework may be assigned during the week. While I attempt to update my homework page at the beginning of the week, there are times when the conversation in the class leads us to a more meaningful and enriched inquiry. As a result you need to be aware, the homework posted on Monday may change. While I will make every attempt to change this page when that happens, ***IT IS ALWAYS YOUR RESPONSIBILITY*** to know what your homework assignment is and when it is due. If you are absent, be sure to contact someone in your class for possible updates and changes.

If you are stuck and unable to understand an assignment and you have exhausted all your resources, please don’t hesitate to contact me at home. I will be happy to explain any assignment. My contact number is 630-469-4511

It’s going to be a great year!

Student Signature: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

Parent Signature: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

Comments or Questions: