Summer Reading List and Assignment
PreDP English 10
Decatur High School
Mrs. Jackie Hendrickson

Novels: You will be expected to read the following novels prior to the beginning of the school year. You may purchase the novels, borrow them from someone, or check them out of the library; however, please be aware that you must have a copy of each novel in class during the first two weeks of school. There will be no extras for in-class use.

**The Hobbit** by J.R.R. Tolkien
**A Separate Peace** by John Knowles
**October Sky** by Homer Hickam (also known as **Rocket Boys**)

You must also read and have with you the article “It’s a Bird, It’s a Plane, It’s Plagiarism Buster!” by Gillian Silverman. This will be discussed during the first few days of class and kept in you notebooks at all times.

Along with this assignment explanation, you have also been given a set of general literary discussion questions. Be aware that we will use the discussion questions for each novel and you will be tested over each novel. Before reading each book, read the discussion questions so as to be prepared for in-class discussion and participation. Discussion is the foundation of this class.

After having read each novel, choose the one you enjoyed the most or seem to understand best. Then complete the following assignment.

1. Specifications for your written assignment.
   a. **Due Date**: Your assignment is due the first day of class. There will be NO EXCEPTIONS to this expectation. **Point Value**: The assignment is worth 100 points and will be considered a test grade.
   b. The following criteria must be met to ensure full credit for the assignment:
      - correct spelling
      - correct punctuation
      - correct use of grammar rules
      - proper paragraph and essay structure
      - Any quoted or paraphrased evidence should be properly documented with MLA style in text citations. (If you do not do this, it will be considered plagiarism and grounds for a zero.)
   c. This assignment must be typed.
      - 10 point font (Times New Roman, Verdana, or Comic Sans)
      - single spaced
      - include on the first page in upper left corner your name, novel title, author

2. After you have made your choice from the novels, complete the following two written responses.
   a. **Reader's Response**: This is not a plot summary. Write about your responses to elements such as characters, conflicts, settings, plot development, symbols, and the writer’s style. Include also your overall opinion of the book. This should be one page in length.
   b. **Key Passage Analysis**: Choose one passage from the novel that you believe is important to the climax (turning point) of the novel. First, type the passage with quotation marks and page numbers. The passage should be several sentences long; however, it should not take up half of the page. In the passage analysis, provide an explanation for **WHY** you feel this passage is so important to the climax of the novel. Including the passage, this response should be one page in length.