

Summer Reading Requirements
English 7
2011

BOOK: *The Hobbit* by J.R.R. Tolkien

READ the book carefully, taking notes to help you remember important elements. There is no journal assignment for the book, but since you will be tested on the books on the first full day of school, you might find it helpful to keep notes in order to review.

As you read, it is strongly suggested that you take notes on the following:

1. **Characters :** Who are they? What do other people in the book say or think about the character? What motivates the character to behave in a particular way?
2. **Theme:** What is the idea about life revealed in this book?
3. **Plot:** What is the series of related events that make up the story? What are the complications as the characters take steps to resolve the conflict? What is the climax of the book? What is the resolution of the book?
4. **Point of View:** Who tells the story or from what vantage point is the story told?
5. **Notice when a passage surprised or puzzled you.**
6. **Notice when you particularly enjoyed a passage.**
7. **Notice details that seem important.**

The book will be used in class discussions and essay writing during the first term. Additionally, every student should make a good faith effort to read and understand the books and to treat the assigned readings seriously. Please do not cheat yourself or your classmates by resorting to Cliff's Notes, Spark Notes, or other "study guides." These deprive you of the chance to respond to the literature independently and are never an adequate substitute for the book itself. Using them is a violation of the Jackson Prep Pledge. Please be aware that movies are also not an adequate substitute for the book.

Remember: Objective reading comprehension tests will be given on the book on the first full day of school. BE AN ACTIVE READER! Have a great summer and enjoy the book. See you in August!