Upper School Summer Reading

Grade 9: *The Alchemist*--Paulo Coelho

Grade 10: *The Catcher in the Rye—*J. D. Salinger

Grade 11: *Fahrenheit 451*—Ray Bradbury

Grade 12: *Brave New World*-- Aldous Huxley

Over the summer, read the book assigned above to your grade level. Bring with you on the first day of school a copy of the text and an analysis of each chapter.

Give each chapter a title that summarizes the main plot point of the chapter. (ex) Grendel Caught in a Tree

Write an analysis (1 1/2 -2 pages written or equivalent typed) of the chapter’s purpose/function/significance to the novel as a whole. Does it describe the setting? Move the plot forward? Develop character? Develop theme? Introduce/ elaborate on a major symbol? Use point of view to convey character, theme, or plot?

Explain exactly how the chapter performs this function. Explain one or more quote and give many examples of plot or character development. Analyze the author’s style using DIDLS.

Don’t merely summarize plot in a “\_\_\_ happens, then \_\_\_\_ happens…” Instead, write, “When \_\_\_ happens, it shows/proves/conveys…”

For example, in the chapter where Piggy is killed by Roger in Golding’s *Lord of the Flies*, call it “Piggy’s death.” In your analysis write, “When Piggy dies, all hope of the boys governing themselves in a responsible, civilized manner is gone.” Then discuss how the chapter reveals the moral decline of Roger and the other boys. Point out that while Roger threw small stones around a child in the water but didn’t hit him early in the novel because the recent conditioning of society—teachers, parents, policemen—still controlled him, but by this point in the book Roger had shaken off all forms of civilized behavior. He and the boys had lost all restraint as they hid behind painted faces and feared Jack as if he were a god. Roger has no remorse about crushing Piggy with a boulder. Also, as Piggy falls over the cliff, the conch is shattered, too, symbolizing all order is gone. Reason is defeated by a mob mentality in the hunters…