

English 8 Honors  
2017 Summer Reading Assignments

Selections:

Strauss, Ed. *A Hobbit Devotional: Bilbo Baggins and the Bible*. Uhrichsville, OH: Barbour, 2012.

Tolkien, J.R.R. *The Hobbit*.

- I. Reading Log\* [60%]:** Complete 10 entries for *The Hobbit* that address the following-
  - A.** Date / # of Pages / Length of time spent reading
  - B.** A brief description of the most compelling character or character action in the selection
  - C.** A connection to one of the devotional chapters of *A Hobbit Devotional*
- II. The Switcheroo [40%]:** Choose a character from a novel you have previously read and speculate how that character might change *The Hobbit*. Address the switcheroo in either of the following two ways-
  - A.** Write an expository composition that explains how the storyline of *The Hobbit* might change with the introduction of the character from the novel you previously read. The composition should be between 3-5 paragraphs and include an explanation of how the characters would interact, how the existing conflicts might be altered (for good or for bad), and what new conflicts might arise. Provide specific information from both novels to support your contentions. (Since your composition is all speculative, your opinions cannot be wrong; however, your opinions can be inadequately supported, a situation you will want to avoid.)
  - B.** Rework a scene from *The Hobbit* in which you inserted the new character. The intent of this assignment is to allow you to showcase your creativity while addressing works of literature. The only requirement is that you keep the characters true to their original characterizations. The scene may be completed in writing (as a movie or television script, a Broadway musical number, a series of letters, etc . . .), in visuals (a storyboard, a series of sketches or renderings, a short video, a shadowbox, etc . . .), or via digital / electronic technology (a PowerPoint, Keynote, or Glogster presentation, a Facebook page set up as the character, a webpage, etc . . .).

Feel free to email Coach Bryan ([joe.bryan@eagleslanding.org](mailto:joe.bryan@eagleslanding.org)) with any questions about any of the above assignments or for approval of any modification of Assignment II B. **The assignments are due on Friday, August 11, 2017.**

**\*The first entry for *The Hobbit* needs to include information from the first chapter; the last entry for needs to include information from the final chapter.**