

HONORS SOPHOMORE ENGLISH SUMMER PROJECTS

Procure a copy of Alexandre Dumas's *The Count of Monte Cristo* (ISBN: 0553213504).

There will be an essay exam on the novel during the first week of school.

There are two parts to this summer homework. The first is a 750 word minimum essay response (you may write more/**THIS IS NOT A SUMMARY OF THE BOOK BUT A RESPONSE TO A QUESTION IN THIRD PERSON POINT OF VIEW!**)

The second portion is a creative assignment that is 750 words of writing or an artistic project.

Part I/ESSAY RESPONSE:

Read the following essay questions and upon completion of the novel, choose **ONE** to answer. Address the question thoroughly (**a minimum of 750 words**), and **type in MLA format**.

***Make sure to type the prompt at the top of the page!**

Use your best organization, word choice, ideas and conventions, **as this is your teacher's first impression of your writing ability.**

Your word choice must not include the following words: contractions (couldn't, wouldn't, etc.), personal pronouns (I, we, us, you me, my, our, etc) or STARV g(2) or g(b) (This stands for stuff, things, a lot, really, very, got, get, good or bad). Find synonyms for these words or just take them out of your writing!.

Make sure to use all proper portions of a developed essay including an introduction, CEC paragraphs and a conclusion with thesis statements in their appropriate places.

This is an assessment in writing as much as the novel. These scores will be entered in Synergy.

1. Dantes acknowledges later in the novel that he has been playing the role of God. Do you agree or disagree? Support your answer with what you believe to be the characteristics of God as well as incorporating textual evidence.
2. Is the Count of Monte Cristo like the vigilante heroes of modern movies and television? How is he different? How is his quest for revenge different?
3. In what sense is Abbe Faria Dantes's second father? Why do you think Faria emphasized the ways a man could use the treasure to help his friends?
4. Edmond Dantes takes on a number of aliases during the course of the novel and many other characters have a variety of names as well. What do you consider to be the significance of names in *The Count of Monte Cristo*? Can you speculate on the meaning of each of Edmond Dantes's assumed names?
5. Madame Danglars and Mercedes are peers in the story. In what ways are they similar? Do their behaviors contrast? What roles do they play in the revenge on their husbands?

7. Monte Cristo tells Mercedes “The sins of the fathers shall fall upon their children.” Does he adhere to that philosophy in taking his revenge?
8. Consider Edmond’s personal character at the novel’s beginning and at his end. What has he lost? What has he gained? Is he satisfied with what he has done?
9. The last words that Monte Cristo utters to Maximillian are “Wait and hope.” What does he mean? What is the significance of the statement?

PART II:

Generate a creative project of the novel that you will present the first day back into school. Include 3 symbols that are metaphorical for the novel. Projects may include a sketchbook, scrap book of characters, movie poster, puzzle, board game, t-shirt, jewelry, painting, newspaper article/magazine article. **Do not cut and paste objects off of Google.**

If you do not like to draw you may do a creative writing assignment like a sequel, changed ending, a song, letters from characters to one another, poetry, etc.
If you choose to do artwork, make sure to color it and put a lot of effort into it. It should be a large project, **not on 8 1/2 x 11 paper.**

The word count is 750 words worth of writing on the creative portion. You may use personal pronouns in this portion.

You may create a project not on this list!

Each portion of the summer assignment is worth 50 points, 100 points total so make sure to spend a good deal of time on the project. Projects are scored on effort, so if it is apparent that you spent very little time on this, you will not receive the points!

Revisions may be required on the writing.