

**Students Entering Honors English 100
Summer Reading Assignment
A Reading Log**

Mrs. Dougard

You will be reading *The Alchemist* by Paulo Coelho over the summer. Complete the following assignment as you read this novel:

*****Throughout your reading, use bullets to identify and briefly explain at least 10 things you learned about Santiago, at least 5 about the Englishman, and at least 5 about the Alchemist**

*****Next, select at least 15 passages that relate to any of the following THEMES.**

Themes of *The Alchemist*:

- Every person has a destiny (a reason / purpose for living). "To achieve one's Personal Legend is a person's only real obligation."
- Our destiny is related to what we truly enjoy doing. "When we really want something, it's because that desire originated in the soul of the universe."
- We know what our destiny is when we are young. "Young people are not afraid to dream."
- Nothing forces us to follow or not follow our destiny. It is our choice. "The world's greatest lie is that at a certain point in our lives, we lose control of what's happening to us and our lives become controlled by fate."
- Most people choose not follow their destiny because they care too much about what society thinks. "What people think about bakers and shepherds becomes more important for them than their own Personal Legends."
- It is important to pay close attention to what is happening around and within us. "Follow the omens." "Wherever your heart is, there you will find your treasure."
- Following your destiny will not be easy but you should not give up. "There is only one thing that makes a dream impossible to achieve: the fear of failure."
- If we follow our destiny, God will help us. "When you really want something, all the universe conspires in helping you to achieve it." "If God leads the sheep so well, he will also lead a man."

- True love will not stop us from following our destiny. "Love never keeps a man from pursuing his Personal Legend."
- If we follow our destiny, it will benefit others as well as ourselves. "The world we live in will become better or worse, depending on whether we become better or worse."
- We must balance following our destiny with taking care of our responsibilities. "The secret of happiness is to see all the marvels of the world, and never to forget the drops of oil on the spoon."
- Sometimes, our treasure is often closer than we think. "He laughed, his heart bursting with joy, because now he knew where his treasure was."

*****Include page numbers, as well as the beginning and ending words. State the context (What is happening in the novel when the passage is stated), and an explanation of WHY you selected each passage (ex. Which theme it ties into and HOW, figurative language, characterization, theme, tone, etc.)*****

There will be a comprehensive short answer quiz on the first or second day of school, and group projects and group discussions will follow.

Completing these assignments with only a cursory reading may be impossible; please work independently and do NOT share your work.

Be aware that Honors English 100 is a great deal of work. Have a relaxing summer, and come ready to work hard in September! I look forward to meeting you and working with you next year! 😊