

# English 400 Honors

## Summer Reading Assignment

### A Reading Log

During this summer you will be reading *The Kite Runner* by Khaled Hosseini.

Complete the following assignments as you read this novel:

I. The more you understand about Afghan culture, history, and geography, the more you will be able to enjoy the novel. Much of the story described in *The Kite Runner* takes place in Afghanistan during the two time periods, the 1970s and 2001. The political climate of the country changed dramatically during these two times. Moreover, the novel describes ethnic and religious groups that are unfamiliar to many Americans. To better understand the relationships between the novel's characters, you should do some research on this country before you begin reading. Take some brief notes on these topics.

II. For each set of five chapters (1-5, 6-10, 11-15, 16-20, and 21-25), use bullets to identify and to briefly explain 3-5 things you learned about the narrator.

III. Next, for each set of chapters, select 5 meaningful passages (a total of 25 passages). Include page numbers, as well as the beginning and ending words. For each passage, state the context (What is happening in the novel) and an explanation of why you selected each passage (i.e. figurative language, characterization, theme, tone, etc.).

**These assignments must be typed following MLA guidelines. They will be collected.**

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There will be a comprehensive short answer quiz on the second or third day of school, and group projects and discussions will follow. Completing these assignments with only a cursory reading or viewing of the movie may be impossible.

Be aware that English 400 Honors is a great deal of work. Have a relaxing summer, and come ready to work hard in September! See you in the fall.