

Summer Reading Assignment: The Hunger Games

Due Date:

The First Day of School

Submission Instructions

This assignment must be submitted electronically through Google Classroom. Please upload your completed essay before class begins on the first day of school.

Assignment:

Over the summer, read The Hunger Games by Suzanne Collins.

After finishing the novel, write a four-paragraph essay that analyzes The Hunger Games as a coming-of-age novel.

Central Questions.

When you write, write to answer these questions in detail. Make it a point to use quotes and citations.

- 1) What does it mean to “come of age?”
- 2) How do we see Katniss come of age throughout the novel?

Your essay should explain the characteristics of a coming-of-age story and analyze how Katniss develops, matures, and changes as a result of the challenges she faces.

Essay Structure

Paragraph 1: Introduction

Define the term coming of age.

Introduce The Hunger Games and its main character, Katniss Everdeen.

Present a clear thesis statement explaining how Katniss's experiences make the novel a coming-of-age story.

Paragraph 2: Responsibility and Maturity

Discuss the responsibilities Katniss carries before and during the Hunger Games.

Explain how her experiences force her to grow and mature.

Use specific examples from the novel.

Paragraph 3: Identity and Growth

Analyze how Katniss changes throughout the novel.

Discuss important decisions she makes and what they reveal about her character.

Explain how these experiences help her develop a stronger sense of identity and independence.

Paragraph 4: Conclusion

Summarize your main ideas.

Answer the central questions: What does it mean to come of age, and how does Katniss come of age?

Explain why Katniss's journey is an effective example of a coming-of-age story.

Essay Expectations

Your essay should:

Be four complete paragraphs.

Include a clear thesis statement.

Use specific examples from the novel.

Focus on analysis rather than plot summary.

Demonstrate thoughtful engagement with the text.

Be typed and submitted through Google Classroom.

Use proper grammar, spelling, punctuation, and paragraph structure.

Grading Rubric (40 Points)

Criteria	Points
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Definition of Coming of Age & Thesis:	
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Clearly defines the concept of coming of age and presents a focused, insightful thesis.	10
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Textual Evidence:	
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Uses relevant and specific examples from the novel to support ideas.	10
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Analysis of Katniss's Growth:	
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Explains how Katniss matures, develops, and comes of age throughout the novel. Goes beyond summary to provide thoughtful analysis.	10
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Organization, Grammar & Mechanics:	
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Essay is well organized, follows the required structure, and demonstrates strong grammar, spelling, and punctuation.	10
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Total: 40 Points

Grade Scale

36–40 points = A

32–35 points = B

28–31 points = C

24–27 points = D

Below 24 points = F

Final Reminder

Read carefully, annotate important moments in Katniss's journey, and begin writing well before the first day of school. Strong essays will thoughtfully explain what it means to come of age and use specific examples from *The Hunger Games* to show how Katniss develops throughout the novel.