

**English Composition I**  
**Summer Reading Assignments 2019-20**  
**New Albany High School**  
**Mrs. King**  
**mking@nasd.ms**

**TEXT:** *Lord of the Flies* by William Golding

<http://www.yoanaj.co.il/uploadimages/userfiles/352.pdf>

\*\*\*Assignments are due on June 28 (Assignment 1), July 19 (Assignment 2), and August 2 (Assignment 3) and will be submitted through Canvas.

\*\*I recommend downloading the PDF of the novel into a PDF viewer such as Tiny PDF or PDF Max rather than iBooks.

\*\*We will write a literary analysis paper and continue a more in-depth study of the novel when school begins.

**WARNING!** \*Plagiarism is a serious academic offense and will result in a grade of “0”. While collaborating with others in the class to discuss the book is acceptable, you should complete all assignments independently. Assignment 1 is worth 30 points, assignment 2 is worth 30 points, and assignment 3 is worth 40 points for a total of 100 points (Major Grade).

**Assignments Due Dates:**

Assignment 1: June 28

Assignment 2: July 19

Assignment 3: August 2

**ASSIGNMENT 1: DUE Friday, June 28th (30 points)**

1. Read Chapters 1-4
2. Compose “tweets” for Ralph, Jack, and Piggy. What would each character “tweet” throughout each chapter? Write it as though you are that specific character using Twitter. **Then compose your own tweets about each chapter. Remember, you are the person tweeting.** What do you think about each character? Maximum length of a “tweet” on Twitter is 280 characters, so length should only be 1-3 sentences.
  - Compose 3-5 tweets for **each** character for each of the following chapters:
  - Chapter 1 (Jack, Ralph, and Piggy), Chapter 2 (Jack, Ralph, and Piggy), Chapter 3 (Jack and Ralph only), Chapters 4 (Jack, Ralph, and Piggy), and tweets from you about each character.
  - Place all tweets in **one** document under the appropriate chapter header (Chapter 1 Tweets, Chapter 2 Tweets, Chapter 3 Tweets, and Chapter 4 Tweets)
3. Submit tweets as a PDF in Canvas
4. Symbols Quotes: As you read, choose quotes that describe each symbol discussed on

page 3. Discuss the symbol as it is referenced in the chapter--obviously, not all will be in every chapter. Be sure to write the quote and page number then analyze its meaning/significance.

5. Submit symbols quotes as a PDF file in Canvas

### **ASSIGNMENT 2: DUE Friday, July 19th (30 points)**

1. Read Chapters 5-8
2. Symbols Quotes: As you read, choose quotes that describe each symbol discussed on page 3. Discuss the symbol as it is referenced in the chapter--obviously, not all will be in every chapter. Be sure to write the quote and page number then analyze its meaning/significance.
3. Submit symbols quotes as a PDF file in Canvas

### **ASSIGNMENT 3: DUE Friday, August 2nd (40 points)**

1. Read Chapters 9-12
2. In his work *Leviathan*, Thomas Hobbes writes of the tribulations and terror that mankind would face if there ever came a time when there was no government to keep law and order. He calls this anarchical situation the State Of Nature, (meaning the way things naturally are). Hobbes suggests that four important factors which together conspire to put us at odds with one another unless we form some sort of social contract to mitigate these factors. Discuss how each of the four factors below applies to the breakdown of civilization in *Lord of the Flies*.
3. Submit paper as a PDF in Canvas

**Directions: Compose a 2-3 page essay to discuss how each of the 4 concepts applies in *Lord of the Flies*. Be sure to use a specific quote for each to support your answer. Proper MLA format (12 pt. TNR Font).**

1. Equality of need: We all have certain basic needs in common such as food, clothing, and shelter. □
2. Scarcity: Factor one wouldn't really be a problem at all except for factor two which is scarcity. There is not an unlimited supply of food, clothing, and shelter just to name the essentials. Economists know this all too well and often define economics as the study of the scarce allocation of resources which have alternative uses. □
3. Equality of human power: Here is the factor that really creates a serious problem when combined with factors one and two. For a time, a few can perhaps take control and take what they want at the expense of everyone else. But, in the long run, this power cannot be sustained because one person's weakness is another person's strength. One person may have force on their side, but perhaps others

have another advantage. In the end these differences tend to even out which creates a situation where everyone is, in Hobbes' phrasing, at war against everyone else for the same scarce resources. □

4. Limited altruism: One solution to the problem is to rely on the kindness of strangers (to paraphrase the famous play). But, this won't work either since we all have limits to how altruistic we are. Let's face it we are not infinitely compassionate towards our fellow human beings.

## **The Top 10 Symbols in Lord of the Flies**

1) The Conch - Ralph and Piggy find the conch shortly after landing on the island. It soon becomes the symbol of authority and law and order. The conch is used to call assemblies and only the person holding the conch could speak at the meetings. Ralph and especially Piggy respected the symbol of the conch until it is smashed to bits by Jack. Jack's inclination to disregard the rules governing the conch is symbolic of his disdain for law, order, and civilization. The destruction of the conch symbolizes the destruction of what little civilization the boys possessed.

2) Piggy's Glasses - The glasses symbolized the ability to see and understand things clearly. Piggy is the only boy, besides Jack, who really sees how things should be done. The cracking of the first lens symbolizes the boys losing sight of what they need to do. The glasses are also important in so much as they are needed to start the fire.

3) The Signal Fire - The signal fire symbolizes the boys' connection to civilization. The fire, initially, is important in the novel. As the boys grow more savage, the fire becomes less important to them. Jack and the hunters let the fire go out in order to hunt. Ralph's effort to keep the fire going are consistent but unsuccessful, in the same way his efforts to restore order are unsuccessful. Golding uses the signal fire to also symbolize hope, something which Jack destroys as the novel progresses. At times the signal fire rages out of control, symbolic of the boys themselves.

4) The Beast - The beast represents the inner savagery of the boys and all mankind. The boys personify it by calling it a giant snake and mistaking a dead parachutist for it. Simon is the only boy who understands that they are the beast.

5) The Lord of the Flies - Jack impales a pig's head on a wooden stake in sacrifice to the beast. The Lord of the Flies symbolizes the devil and is a literal translation from Hebrew meaning Beelzebub.

6) The Dead Parachutist - Piggy looks for a sign from the adult world. He gets it the very same night. Miles above the island, a plane is shot down. A dead man floats onto the island and becomes lodged in rocks and trees. The dead parachutist symbolizes the adult world and its

inability to maintain peace. Piggy's desire to learn civilized behavior from adults goes unfulfilled. The dead man also becomes the beast.

7) The Plane Crash - The plane crash symbolizes the breakdown of modern society. The boys leave England to get away from the war and are shot down by the enemy

8) The Scar - The scar left by the plane crash, symbolizes the damaging encroachment of humans in paradise. The vivid imagery that Golding uses to describe how the scar smashes into the jungle illustrates the effect humans have on the earth and how devastating man can be.

9) The Island - The island symbolizes the Garden of Eden before the arrival of the boys. After the boys arrive it becomes corrupted and destroyed.

10) The Boys - The boys also stand as symbols: Simon represents goodness; Ralph and Piggy symbolize law and order; Jack and Roger stand for evil; The big kids represent the ruling classes; and the littluns symbolize common folk.