

# 10th Grade Summer Reading:

*Kite Runner* by Khaled Hosseini

*Things Fall Apart* by Chinua Achebe

Directions:

- For part 1, you are provided 3 questions/prompts, and you will need to **choose 1** and complete it using whichever book you want. **(1 page minimum)**
- For part 2, you are provided 2 questions/prompts, and you will need to do **both**: apply 1 to one of your books and the other to the other book, however you choose. **(1 page minimum for EACH response.)**
- For part 3, you have 10 questions; you need to **answer the 10 questions for BOTH books**. The length for this will vary according to the question; so just do what each question asks.

## Part 1

**Choose ONE of the following three prompts to complete on *either* of your 10th grade summer reading books (one page minimum):**

1. Trace the protagonist's changes in the novel. Describe in detail three ways he/she changes and what drives him/her to change.
2. One of the main methods that an author uses to express a specific message in a work of literature is through the use of conflict in a story. A character usually learns an important lesson by going through an experience of conflict, and this conflict can reveal an important message about life (theme). In your essay explore the author's use of internal conflict and external conflict to convey a universal theme in the story.
3. Think about the role that social class plays in the novel that you've read. What social classes are represented in the novel? As you go through your novel, consider two important questions: how does the author feel about the different social classes, and how can you tell the author's opinion? Explores the way that social class and class issues affect the characters and plot of your novel.

## Part 2

Complete both of the following questions/prompts; pick one for *Things Fall Apart* and the other for *The Kite Runner*. You can choose how to apply them. (One page minimum for each response.)

1. Do a close examination of the setting in your novel. What are the primary locations? How are these places made realistic through extended description, background information, and specific detail to make the setting come alive for readers? How do the main characters fit in the settings — do they seem at home or out of place? Discuss the way the novelist uses to make the setting vivid and real to readers. Is the author effective in connecting the setting and characters for the reader?
2. Murasaki Shikibu said that the novel "happens because of the storyteller's own experience . . . has moved him to an emotion so passionate that he can no longer keep it shut up in his heart." What is the passionate emotion that is communicated in your novel? Why was the author of your novel moved to write? What is the thing that the novelist had to communicate? In your paper, explain the author's motivating emotion and how it is explored in the novel.

## Part 3

Complete the following 10 questions for BOTH of your books:

1. Identify the **narrator** of the story, the **point of view**, and the narrator's and author's **tone** presented in the novel.
2. Keep track of **theme(s)** as they emerge and your reactions to them.
3. Take notes on the **setting** (including culture) and how it affects or influenced the characters and the evolution of the plot.
4. Note the **structure** of the novel. Is it linear or nonlinear (uses flashbacks)? How does that contribute to the novel?
5. Note interesting or unusual **diction** (word choice). How does that contribute to the meaning of the novel?
6. Note 5 instances of **figurative language** (metaphor, simile, personification, hyperbole) used throughout the novel and explain how it contributes to the meaning.

7. What **imagery** is used in the novel and when (give 3 examples from the text)? What purpose does this serve?
8. Write down 10 **vocabulary** words from throughout the novel you come across and define them.
9. Write three (3) **quotes** from the text that you found interesting or made you think. Write a paragraph on each explaining why you found these important? Do they remind you of something in your own life or another book you've read? What made them stand out? How are they important to the novel as a whole?
10. Write a paragraph responding to the novel. Did you like the book? Why? Why not? What parts of the novel were the most troublesome? What parts did you enjoy? Would you read more novels about this topic? By this author? Why?