AICE ENGLISH LANGUAGE: AS SUMMER READING

Due Date: September 10, 2021

- Absolutely no late work will be accepted for summer reading.
- Assignments may be typed or hand written in blue/black ink.
- Summer reading assignments and tests will account for no more than 10% of your 1st quarter grade.

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"You forget what you want to remember, and you remember what you want to forget."



THE ASSIGNMENT

- Read the apocalyptic novel, The Road, by Cormac McCarthy.
- Since there are no actual chapters in the book, we will break the book into 5 sections (approximately 60 pages each) for reflection. If your page numbers are different, it's okay, just break it into 5 sections.
- Your responses should include a brief response to the question (100 – 200 words) followed by a minimum of 2 concrete examples from that section listed below your reflection (these may be bullet points and must include the page numbers and/or the quoted material).

SECTION 1: PGS 1 - 60

Cormac McCarthy has an unmistakable prose style. What do you see as the most distinctive features (identify at least 2 specific items) of that style?

SECTION 2: PGS 61 - 121

How is McCarthy able to make the post-apocalyptic world of The Road seem so real and utterly terrifying? Which descriptive passages are especially vivid and visceral in their depiction of this blasted landscape?

SECTION 3: PGS 122 - 182

The man and the boy think of themselves as the "good guys." In what ways are they like and unlike the "bad guys" they encounter?

SECTION 4: PGS 183 - 243

The Road takes the form of a classic journey story, a form that dates back to Homer's Odyssey. In what way(s) does this book represent a journey or quest? To what destination are the man and the boy journeying? In what sense are they "pilgrims"?

SECTION 5: PGS 244 - end

As the father is dying, he tells his son he must go on in order to "carry the fire." What is this fire? Why is it so crucial that they not let it die? Find two examples where the father and son discuss the "fire".