

## English IV Regular and Honors Summer Reading

Students enrolled in **English IV Regular and Honors** should complete the following summer reading assignment after reading *Grendel* by **John Gardner**. Students are expected to have a physical copy of the novel. No digital novels will be accepted in class as personal electronics are not allowed in the classroom.

Over the summer, students are expected to take detailed notes on the novel and will turn in these notes on the first day of school for a grade. In addition, students will be allowed to use their hand-written notes and their physical copy of the novel on the essay written in-class the first week of school.

**Assignment #1: As you read, take detailed, hand-written notes on the following sections (Please label each section with the number and title):**

### **Section 1: Setting**

Describe the time and place in which the action occurs. What is significant about the setting? Is there a shift in setting?

### **Section 2: Plot**

Briefly summarize the plot, using standard formats of basic plot structure as they may apply: exposition, rising action, turning point, climax, falling action, denouement (resolution). Discuss any conflict and any other literary device(s) that significantly impacts plot.

### **Section 3: Point of View**

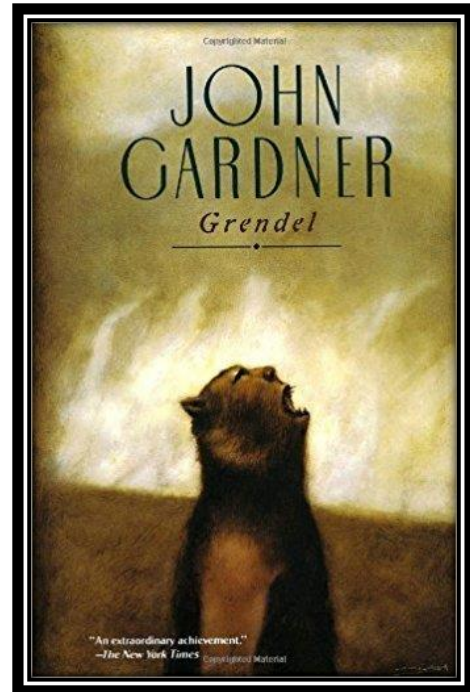
Explain from what perspective this story (novel) is told. Does it shift perspectives? If so why do you think the author does this? How does the choice of narrator or perspective impact the theme(s) of the work?

### **Section 4: Characterization**

Identify the characters in order of importance (starting with the protagonist and antagonist) and describe them and their role in the work. Be sure to include physical and psychological details in your descriptions. How do the characters interact? Which characters form alliances?

### **Section 5: Symbols and Literary Devices**

Identify and discuss any symbols and literary devices used in the work. How did these affect your understanding of the work? How are they important in their connection to theme and meaning in the work? You should consider such literary devices as symbolism, diction, metaphor, imagery, irony, humor, etc. that have meaningful impact on any part of this work.



**Section 6: Theme**

Identify and discuss any important messages and ideas the author communicates in the work. Remember that themes are the important ideas and/or messages the author wants the reader to get from his work.

Hint: An idea is important (and, therefore, thematic) if it is repeated.

**Section 7: Quotes**

Select three to five quotes that illustrate thematic ideas in the work. You must fully analyze and explain each quote showing not only what the quote says, but what it MEANS to the work. Be sure to use quotation marks and include a page number with each quote. Note bibliographic information for the text you are using at the bottom of this section (MLA Citation).

**Section 8: Response**

Discuss your response to this work. Did you enjoy it? Why/ Why not? What parts of this book did you enjoy or not enjoy? Would you recommend it to someone else? What type of person would appreciate this work most? Most importantly, what connections are there between this work and other texts and/ or the world that you live in?

**Final thoughts**

*It is important that each student completes this assignment individually and submits original work. Students should avoid using any commercially available materials in the completion of these exercises. Please avoid the use of supplemental aids such as SparkNotes or CliffsNotes, Wikipedia, Schmoop, or other comparable commercial or Internet sources. Osceola Fundamental High's Honor Policy regarding plagiarism will be enforced. Students are advised to make notes as they read. Notes will help in class discussions and future writing assignments.*