

Literature in the Media Summer Assignment

"You can't change laws without first changing human nature." -Nurse Greta
"You can't change human nature without first changing the law." -Nurse Yvonne

If you have any questions on the assignment or class, please e-mail me at
SADLERM@PCSB.ORG WITH SUBJECT LINE: Summer Assignment

One of the driving questions for Literature in the Media Honors is the eternal question – do we, as members of society, do what is right or what is for the greater good – and if there is a difference between the two?

The first major unit focuses on the shared Marvel Cinematic Universe where the development of several characters reaches a conflict between right and good.

Please be familiar with the MCU as much as you can be. Over the summer you will be asked to view several films as well as an accompanying short assignment.

The films to watch:

- Iron Man 1
- Captain America: Winter Soldier

Tv Show to watch:

- The Good Place; Episodes 1 and 2

The following are suggested for more character development, but no assignment needed:

- Iron Man 2
- Captain American: The First Avenger
- Thor
- Avengers
- Iron Man 3 (If you watch, do it after Avengers)

After watching *Iron Man*, *Winter Soldier*, and *The Good Place* you will do the following:

In a **Word Document**, you will create **Three Columns**. Those three columns will be the following: Gems (evidence), Elaboration, Ethics. This will be turned into Canvas/Turnitin. Due Date will be shortly after returning school and posted in Canvas.

When evaluating your Gems, I look for:

- **Excellence** – Is it quality? Does this gem you find have merit? Is it useful for discussion? Does it meet the highest standards?
- **Evidence** – is this a direct quote? Paraphrased? Or a general feeling you get from the text? The more specific you are the better the cut from the text.
- **Elaboration** – How much do you elaborate on your gem; explain why you picked it? Do you have good reasoning for it? How well does that elaboration connect with the overall message of the text.

On the next page, I have an Example of the 3 columns for you.

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Gems (Evidence)	Elaboration	Ethics
<p>“Here you will provide evidence from the film or tv show. This can be paraphrased or direct quotes”</p> <p>GEMS are things you found valuable to you as you watched; often Gems are things that connect to characters, themes, and life-questions. It would be good to focus on the moral and philosophical issues you come across.</p>	<p>Here you will elaborate on your Gems/Evidence. Provide specific reasons why you picked these gems. What makes them important to you, are they thematic, character driven, ethically driven, etc.</p>	<p>Based on the Gem you found, what open-ended ethical question can you create about that situation or quote. Remember, ethical implies the differences between right and wrong, or you may want to challenge the ethics of that world, or something in relation to the characters or the theme. (How is Batman’s no killing policy more ethical than him severely injuring bad guys – to the point of broken backs, etc...?)</p>