

English IV Research Paper Information (1-15-08) - Parent Signature # _____

START NOW. You have 15 weeks from announcement to the finished paper. I expect a paper that reflects that kind of time, not one that is thrown together the weekend before.

3rd Quarter Due Dates (10% of this quarter grade)

2/7/08 – Working thesis statement turned in (25% deduction for each day late)

3/6/08 – Final thesis statement and initial outline of paper w/ half of research listed. Any books (can count on Read 900) should have been read by now. (25% deduction for each day late)

4th Quarter Due Dates (10% of this quarter grade)

Early Paper Turn-in - 4/29/08- Receive an extra five points for turning in early

On Time Paper Turn-in – 4/30/08 (Full credit)

Late Paper Turn-in – 5/1/08 – 20% OFF

5/2/08 – 50% OFF

5/5/08 – 75% OFF

AFTER 5/5/08 – NO CREDIT

Length and form:

Helpful site: <http://owl.english.purdue.edu/owl/resource/560/01/>

- **Double space** with standard margins (1 inch). Font should be **no larger than 12**.
- You must have a title page. Include:

Full Name

Eng IV: Period ____

Title (required)

Date

- Body 6-10 Pages of text (8-10 for Honors) - pictures, etc. **do not** count as text
- APA Citation (see hand-out or look online)
- Authoritative References (Minimums). At least 50% must be literary.

8 (10 for Honors) Total:

2 must be from books

2 **may** be from the Internet (watch that it is not just uneducated opinion)

4 must be authoritative (6 for honors) – books, journals, etc.

More and premium research will earn you a better grade. The above are minimums.

Research Paper Helps:

- Remember the school sites. These are easy and free to you.
- Go to a public or college library and talk to the research librarian. **Two visits required.**
- Look for versions of your books that include literary analysis (Norton Critical Edition, New Riverside Editions, etc). This material can be used as reference and will help you with your thesis.
- Start with a strong thesis statement (what your paper is trying to prove). **HIGHLIGHT.** – *Handout*
- Introduce content of your paper in your **first** paragraph (essay style) - *Handout*
- Document everything using **APA** style. Don't forget in-text citations. – *Handout*

Remember:

- Must be a on a literary subject (novels, plays, poetry, characters, authors writing styles, etc.), not world hunger, abortion, or the war in Iraq, etc. If unsure, please get approval from the teacher.
- Must be a compare/contrast paper where you are proving something. A bit of a debate on paper where **you are taking a side** and proving your side with research. It is not a report or summary. It is an argument that you have to win in order to have a good paper. It is not a PERSONAL OPINION paper, it is a RESEARCH PAPER. Choose your topic carefully and make certain there are enough authorities that agree with you to prove your opinion. **YOU ARE NOT A LITERARY AUTHORITY.**
- Must have authoritative sources (literary and information relating to your topic).
- Modern works will be harder to get authoritative sources for, **SO BE CAREFUL.**

Have Research Librarian sign (minimum of two visits):

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Note to librarian:

The student securing this signature is doing a research paper for his English IV class at Sarasota Military Academy. Thank you for any help you can give the student on this assignment. For some this is the first such paper they have done.