

Summer Reading Honors English I

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Boy's Life by Robert McCammon

As you read, you will take two-column notes. Your engagement with the text is what creates meaning, so each of you will be having a “discussion” or “conversation” with the text as you analyze such literary elements as voice, plot, characterization, or use of literary devices such as flashback or foreshadow.

General Instructions

- Journal entries may be hand-written in blue or black ink or typed. We prefer that they be typed.
- We want you to write the entries as you read—not when you finish the assigned reading. Your observations as you are reading come and go quickly, so it is important to record them as you have them.
- There are numerous YouTube videos to help if you are unsure how to analyze the text as described in this assignment.
- Make sure to include the page number after the quoted text.
- You are required to have a minimum of 15 entries that span the entire course of the novel. Your final entry will be at the end of the book.
- Please use the following format for your entries:

Text	Personal Response
<p>Record the quote from <i>Boy's Life</i> in this space. Do not use the ellipsis mark (—) before or after the quote, and we would prefer that you not use it in the middle of the quote either.</p> <p>If the quote is important enough to comment on, then quote it all. Don't forget to include the page number after the quote.</p>	<p>In this space write your personal response. Tell how the quote or events surrounding this quote contribute to plot elements, add to character development or work as a literary device. You may also connect, or compare this passage to another book or poem you've read.</p> <p>The key is the connections. Do not be overly basic, vague, or clichéd. The purpose of analysis and close reading is to become one with the text, dissect the craft, and discover hidden meanings.</p>

You will be completing an oral exam on this book the first week of school. You *must* pass this exam with a 70% or better, or I will recommend you be placed in regular English 1. Date of the exam is usually the first week of school.

Please email us over the summer with questions or concerns.