

## English 11 Summer Reading 2011

English 11- Read the required book (*The Things They Carried*) from List A and one book of your choice from List B. Complete the summer reading assignment for *The Things They Carried*, and be prepared to turn it in on the first day of school. Be prepared to complete an in-school assessment on the book from List B during the first week of school.

### **List A- Complete the summer reading/writing assignment.**

*The Things They Carried*- Tim O'Brien

### **List B- Teacher directed assessment during the first week of school.**

*A Long Way Gone: Memoirs of a Boy Soldier*- Ishmael Beah

*Sold*- Patricia McCormick

## English 11 Summer Reading Assignment

Complete the following assignment for the book you read from List A.

- **Point value:** 50 points, based on your adherence to the guidelines, coherent expression, creativity, and inclusion of facts, the relationship of the book, character interpretation, mechanics, the use of proper format and proper citation.
- **Due Date:** A paper hard copy is due on the first day of school. You will also submit this assignment as a Word document to Turnitin.com. Your English teacher will provide you with the instructions for Turnitin.com at the beginning of the school.

1. Write a character interview based on the characters and action in your novel. Pick one character to interview from the book you read. Develop ten thoughtful questions. Make them deep and interesting open-ended questions ("why" and "what if") that require more than a "yes" or "no" answer. An open-ended question cannot be answered with one word such as "yes" or "no" but must be answered with an explanation, description, anecdote, or something that requires at least a couple of sentences. Examples of open-ended questions follow:

Open-Ended Question
Tell me about your relationship with your boss. (NOT: Do you get on well with your boss?)
What do you think about the two candidates in this election? (NOT: Who will you vote for in this election?)
That's an interesting colored shirt you're wearing. (NOT: What color shirt are you wearing?)

2. Then, in keeping with the character's personality and action of the book, write out answers to these questions. Answer as if you WERE the character. Be sure to include specific information and actual quotations for support of the character's responses.

**Procedures:**

1. The assignment must be typed, double-spaced, size 12, in a standard font (Times New Roman, Ariel, etc.).
2. At the top of page one, put your name in the upper right hand corner, then center the **title** of the book (italicized) and **author** (not underlined or italicized) (e.g. *Of Mice and Men* by John Steinbeck).
3. Double-space after the title and write the word **Interview:** on the left margin. On the next line, add the name and a complete description of the character, including both a physical description and personality traits, whom you are interviewing.
4. Once you have developed at least ten open-ended questions, you may begin to interview your character. On the margin, number the questions **1-10**. Write each question and follow it with the character's answer. Label questions **Q** and answers **A**. Provide an in-depth answer to each question that befits the character. Answers should not begin with "Well."
5. You must use at least 2 direct quotations from the book (descriptions or actual dialogue) in the interview answers. Cite the book information in parenthesis at the end of the sentence using MLA format. Punctuate correctly. Include the page number followed by a semi-colon, an abbreviation for the word chapter followed by a period (ch.) and the chapter number. Skip a space after the semi-colon and two spaces after the period following ch. If the end punctuation is an exclamation point or question mark, it goes before the final quotation marks. A period goes after the second parenthesis. The final quotation marks go before the first parenthesis. **For example:**

Lou Ann says, "If Mama ever got married again I'd dance a jig at her wedding" (111; ch. 8).