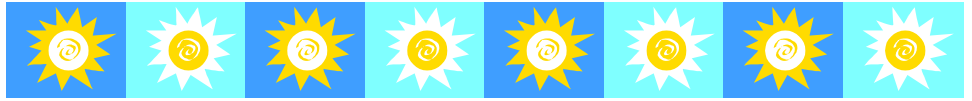


Falls Church High School
Summer Reading Assignment
English 9



Jessica Connell (ekconnell1@fcps.edu) – English 9 Team Leader

Dear Rising Freshman,

The English 9 team at Falls Church High School happily anticipates your arrival in the fall! In preparation for school in September, all rising ninth graders must complete a summer reading assignment. Please find details of the assignment below. This handout will also be available on the FCHS website (<http://www.fcps.edu/FallsChurchHS/>). If you have any questions, please email Mrs. Connell over the summer.

Reading Assignment

Please choose one of the following novels: *Fallen Angels* by Walter Dean Myers; *Izzy, Willy-Nilly* by Cynthia Voight; or *The Curious Incident of the Dog in the Night-Time* by Mark Haddon.

Project Guidelines

As you read, choose SIX (6) characters. Create a vanity license plate for each character that reflects the setting, his/her personality, character, tone, and actions throughout the book.

Each license should:

- Be completed on standard size white paper (8.5" x 11") neatly stapled together or presented on poster board.
- Be colorful (hand-drawn or printed).
- Use 6-10 characters (letters, numbers, symbols).
- Include one picture/illustration. This visual aid should relate to the message on the plate.
- Indicate the setting.
- Include a written explanation (5-7 sentences) of what the plate means, how it relates to the character, and why the picture represents the character.
- Include a descriptive passage (with page number) from the book (at least 2 sentences long) to support your explanation.

Be sure to write the title of the book, author, and your name clearly on the project.

Assessment

This assignment is worth 100 points. It is due by the end of the first week of school (or as directed by your English 9 teacher). A breakdown of the grading follows:

	Each plate	Total
Written explanation	6	36
Descriptive passage from book	2	12
Setting	1	6
Only 6-10 characters on plate	2	12
Picture/illustration	2	12
Colorful	--	4
Standard white paper stapled neatly or on poster board	--	4
Overall neatness, creativity, effort	--	10
Title, author, your name	--	4

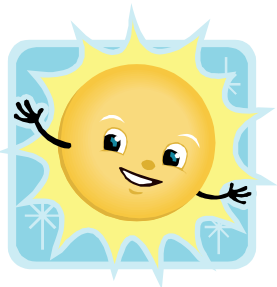
Example

Use the following example vanity plate to guide your own project.



“For once, Benjamin consented to break his rule, and he read out to her what was written on the wall. There was nothing there now except a single Commandment. It ran: ALL ANIMALS ARE EQUAL BUT SOME ANIMALS ARE MORE EQUAL THAN OTHERS. After that it did not seem strange when next day the pigs who were supervising the work of the farm all carried whips in their trotters.” (p. 92)

The license plate means “most equal,” and it represents Napoleon the pig. As the leader pig, he wants the animals to believe that all the animals are equal, when in reality he gives the pigs more rights. Napoleon thinks the other animals are too stupid to understand what is happening. By making himself the leader, he is no better than the human farmer the animals overthrew in the beginning of the book. The picture shows a man standing on a medal podium, holding up his trophy. He represents Napoleon who believes he is the “most equal” of all the animals.



**Have an awesome summer break, and see you in the fall!
Good luck on your summer reading assignment!**