

Summer Reading—English 12—British Literature

Titles to be read on or before **August 15, 2019**:

Tuesdays with Morrie by Mitch Albom

You will need a copy of this book for classroom use. For the first weeks of school, please bring *Tuesdays with Morrie* to class with you.

1) Assignment for Tuesdays with Morrie:

- A. Read the entire book. While its brevity makes it easily read, *Tuesdays with Morrie* is not easily digested. Do your best to keep an open mind and a reflective spirit. I think you will learn much about yourself.
- B. For this assignment, you will write a total of two (2) essays and seven (7) journal entries. The essays should be formatted as formal, five (5) paragraph essays with a clear introduction and conclusion. These should be typed using Times New Roman, 12 -point font and double spaced. The journals should be hand-written in your notebook and more casually, yet still following standard English conventions.

Please complete your work in a spiral or bound notebook and bring to class on the first day of school.

I hope you enjoy your summer and your reading!

Email questions to jduling@tcsww.org

Tuesdays With Morrie Journal Prompts

As we read over the next few weeks, complete each journal prompt considering your own thoughts and what you are reading in the book. Due dates for Journals will be announced in class. You will be graded on attention to detail and general mechanics. **Each entry should be at least one paragraph in length unless otherwise noted.**

Pages 1-47

Journal #1: How do you feel when you hear or see a horrific news story? Do you feel like it is an appropriate reaction? Explain.

Journal #2: Despite Morrie's deteriorating health, he does not have "self-pity." Recall a time you felt sorry for yourself. Explain the circumstances and how you felt afterward. Were your feeling justified?

Formal essay #1: Name three values in your life and explain why each one is important. Begin with an introductory paragraph that ends with a central thesis identifying the three (3) values you plan to discuss in the body of your essay. Conclude with a paragraph that renames your values and summarizes in a unique way. ***

Pages 48-79

Journal #3: If today were your last day on earth, what regrets would you have? Explain

Journal #4: Morrie said, "Once you learn how to die, you learn how to live" (82). Explain what Morrie means by this statement and whether or not you agree.

Journal #5: Discuss the relationship you have with your family. Are you happy with this relationship, or do you wish it could change? How would you like to see it change?

Pages 80-141

Journal #6: What do you fear most about aging, specifically the coming years as you graduate high school and move on to the next phase of your life? Explain

Journal #7: In today's society, people place a large value on accumulating material possessions and having a lot of money. Explain what Morrie means when he says "Neither money nor power will give you the feeling you're looking for." Do you agree? Explain using at least two (2) paragraphs where you, first—explain the aphorism used and, second—defend your stance using specific examples.

Pages 142-End

Formal essay #2: Reaction Essay ***

I. Introduction should provide contextual information, including but not limited to: Title, author, year published, and some sort of background about how/why this book was written.

II. What message or lesson did you take from this novel?

-for whom do you believe this book was written (target audience)

-do you think that the author was successful in getting his/her message across? Why?

III. What did the author do well? What did the author do poorly? Write a review of the novel and support your opinions with examples from the text.

IV. Additional comments you would like to include.

V. Did the novel help you or change your thought process in any way? How?

** Your reaction should be approximately 250 words in length. **

***Remember that both formal essays should be typed using Times New Roman, 12 pt font, and double spaced. ***