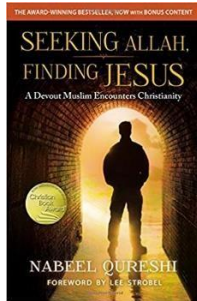




English IV Honors Summer Reading



Reading Assignment:

Buy an actual printed copy of the book *Seeking Allah, Finding Jesus*. Read and then complete the following assignments. Do not buy the Study Guide that accompanies the book; you are welcome to read that, but our discussion will be over the actual text.

Writing Assignment:

For the first part of your written response to the book, you will need to submit a bulleted summary of the story divided into 11 sections (one for each section of the book plus the epilogue). Each section should have many (min 10) bullet points which sum up that section in your own words. **KEEP IN MIND** that *these summaries will be submitted to turnitin* and will be compared against everything on the internet AND any other submissions from other students that I receive. I would advise you to avoid “collaborating” with peers at all costs. Assignments with more than 5% plagiarism will earn a zero.

The second part of the written assignment will be a formal personal reflection. In a two-page essay, consider Quershi’s journey to Christ. Compare that to your own journey; you can be honest, as you will not be judged on your beliefs. You may use the first person to thoughtfully and carefully discuss the similarities and differences in your faith journeys. Forget the fact that he began his life in another religion; I guarantee that if you really read the book, you will find yourself relating to the story regardless of where your faith started. **REMEMBER:** just because you are writing something personal does not mean that you can write casually. This needs to be formal, well thought out, and carefully crafted.

Finally, on the first day of class, you will write an essay on an aspect of the book of my choosing. You will need a thorough, working knowledge of the text, and you will need to be able to specifically reference the book in your essay without having the actual book in front of you.

As the saying goes, “You never get a second chance to make a first impression.” These assignments will be my first impression of you as a student; they tend to be strong indicators of ability level, work ethic and future intention. By choosing to take an Honors level course, you are choosing to work harder, to think further, to analyze more deeply and to connect more strongly to authors, literature, and the written word in general. Please be sure that your summer work reflects who you really are and what you are truly capable of.