

# 11th Grade Honors Language Arts

Modern Global Literature

Summer Reading 2021

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Dear Eleventh Grade Families,

Studies show that most students experience a loss of reading skills over the summer, but **students who continue to read over the summer months actually gain skills**. Efforts should be made during the summer to help sustain reading skills and intellectual activity. Reading, especially reading novels, builds critical reading and thinking skills, vocabulary, empathy, and language abilities.

Most importantly, students require a good example! Keep lots of reading material around the house. Turn off the television and have each person read his or her book, even the adults in the house. Better yet, read the same book your child is reading and discuss it with him/her. This is an effective way to develop habits of the mind and build capacity for thought and insight.

**Please submit a printed copy of your work to your honors teacher on the FIRST FULL DAY OF SCHOOL IN SEPTEMBER. You will upload your writing to Turn It In.com later that week.**

Have a safe and fun summer!

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**Assignment: read the required novel and write an essay in response to the given prompt.**

## 1. Required Novel:

*In the Time of the Butterflies* by Julia Alvarez

“It is November 25, 1960, and three beautiful sisters have been found near their wrecked Jeep at the bottom of a 150-foot cliff on the north coast of the Dominican Republic. The official state newspaper reports their deaths as accidental. It does not mention that a fourth sister lives. Nor does it explain that the sisters were among the leading opponents of Gen. Rafael Leonidas Trujillo’s dictatorship. It doesn’t have to. Everybody knows of Las Mariposas—“The Butterflies.””

"A fascinating and powerful picture of a family and a nation’s history." —*The Dallas Morning News*

(*The Denver Post*)

## 2. Prompt:

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**\*Analyze how culture influences each of the four principal characters in *In the Time of the Butterflies*.\***

Your writing should reach approximately **three (3) typed pages**, employ **four body paragraphs**, and be **double-spaced**. You should develop a **thesis statement** in order to direct and organize your writing.

Answers should exemplify your best writing, with few, if any, grammatical errors. Statements/opinions should be supported by specific references to the text, and *quotes should be cited using proper MLA format*. Please refer to the scoring rubric on page 3 as you craft your response.

**According to Merriam-Webster, culture is defined as:**

**1a:** the customary beliefs, social forms, and material traits of a racial, religious, or social group: the characteristic features of everyday existence (such as diversions or a way of life) shared by people in a place or time

**b:** the set of shared attitudes, values, goals, and practices that characterizes an institution or organization

**c:** the set of values, conventions, or social practices associated with a particular field, activity, or societal characteristic

**Friendly reminders for your essay:**

-MLA Format

-Thesis statement/main argument

-Evidence from the text/properly-cited quotes

-Enhanced word choice

-Avoidance of personal pronouns (“I” and “me”) is preferred

-Thoroughly edited

-Printed for the first day of school

-Be prepared to discuss this work with the teacher and classmates upon arrival to school in September

-Enjoy reading!

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Focus	Sharp, distinct controlling point made with evident awareness of task.	Apparent point made with sufficient awareness of task.	No apparent point made, but evidence of the topic exists.	Minimal evidence exists regarding the prompt.	No evidence exists regarding the prompt.
Content	Substantial, specific, and/or illustrative content demonstrating strong development and sophisticated ideas. Quotations included that effectively support the writer's position.	Sufficiently developed content with adequate elaboration or explanation. Quotations included that adequately support the writer's position.	Limited content with inadequate elaboration or explanation. Quotations included that minimally support the writer's position.	Superficial and/or minimal content. Quotations included that fail to support the writer's position or no quotations included.	No essay submitted.
Organization	Sophisticated arrangement of content with evident and/or subtle transitions	Functional arrangement of content that sustains a logical order with some evidence of transitions.	Confused or inconsistent arrangement of content with or without attempts at transition.	Minimal control of content arrangement	No essay submitted.
Style	Precise, illustrative use of variety of words and sentence structures to create consistent writer's voice and tone appropriate to audience.	Generic use of variety of words and sentence structures that may or may not create writer's voice and tone appropriate to audience.	Limited word choice and control of sentence structures that inhibit voice and tone	Minimal variety in word choice and minimal control of sentence structures.	No essay submitted.
Conventions	Evident control of grammar, mechanics, spelling, usage and sentence formation. MLA format.	Sufficient control of grammar, mechanics, spelling, usage and sentence formation.	Limited control of grammar, mechanics, spelling, usage and sentence formation.	Minimal control of grammar, mechanics, spelling, usage and sentence formation.	No essay submitted.