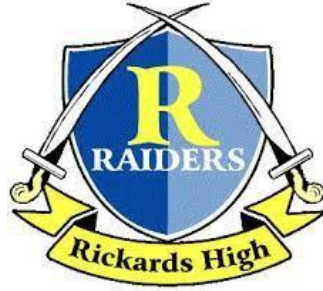


James S. Rickards High School Summer Reading

Attention: Parents and Students!



WHO: James S. Rickards High School Students taking IB Literature III.

WHAT: The following information outlines the assignment we have given to our IB Literature 3 students for the 2025 James S. Rickards Summer Reading Program. These rigorous courses require that students analyze literature, including texts written in verse and classic literature, as a basis for exploring contemporary themes. A requirement of the course is the AP Literature and Composition Exam, which is created by the College Board and administered after the year. This assessment includes three free-response questions: literary analysis of a poem, literary analysis of prose, and analysis of a selected work based on a specific concept. The following assignment will prepare students for what to expect.

Students are expected to complete the assignment by themselves, only using the power of their brains. If a student is caught plagiarizing, they will receive a 0%.

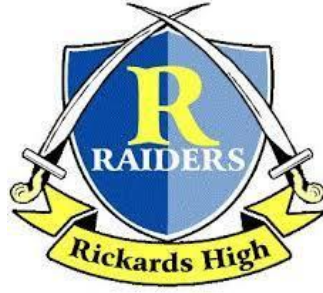
This assignment should be completed via a Word document. Students are encouraged to use their Leon County School's Office365 account, which can be accessed through ClassLink.

WHEN: This assignment will be collected within the second week of class during the 2025-26 school year.

CONTACT INFO: If you have any questions regarding our JSRHS Summer Reading Program, please feel free to contact Mrs. G. Cooper, JSRHS ELA Department Chair, (cooperg2@leonschools.net), or Dr. Joe Williams, JSRHS IB Coordinator, (williamsj@leonschools.net).

James S. Rickards High School Summer Reading

Attention: Parents and Students!



Assignment:

To prepare you for your studies in IB Lit 3, you must complete the following tasks. You will read poems by the authors listed below.

First, go to <https://www.poetryfoundation.org/>

At that site you should search for authors and begin by reading their brief biographies. You will also find a small selection of their work. Make sure you are focusing on their poetry. Explore the available poems and **choose 4 poems from each author** that you find appealing. Carefully read these 20 poems multiple times to gain a good feel for their voice, tone, and meaning. Then, for each of the poems you have selected, complete a journal response. Each journal entry, one for each of the 20 poems, should include the following:

- The title and author of the poem
- Your response to the poem, including emotional reaction, why you like or dislike it, and a specific quality or feature that you think makes it stand out.
- An interpretation of the poem including subject and possible meaning.
- A description of a structural element (rhyming, stanza breaks, line breaks, enjambment, capitalization, rhythm, etc.) and that element's impact on the poem.
- An explanation of a figurative element (symbol, metaphor, allusion, personification, hyperbole, alliteration, etc.) and that element's impact on the poem.

How you complete this written task is up to you (hand written, typed, double-entry journal, free response, etc.) as long as all the above elements are included.

This assignment is due by Friday, August 22nd of the 2025 -2026 school year.

For each poet listed below, you'll choose FOUR of their poems for your journal response, for a total of 20 journals.

- Joy Harjo
- Audre Lorde
- Ross Gay
- Timothy Yu
- Walt Whitman