## ELA 11 Honors & ELA 11 Summer Reading Assignment 2023/2024

This summer you have a choice between two novels:

- *Scythe (Arc of a Scythe)* by Neal Shusterman
  - A world with no hunger, no disease, no war, no misery: humanity has conquered all those things, and has even conquered death. Now Scythes are the only ones who can end life—and they are commanded to do so, in order to keep the size of the population under control.

Citra and Rowan are chosen to apprentice to a scythe—a role that neither wants. These teens must master the "art" of taking life, knowing that the consequence of failure could mean losing their own.

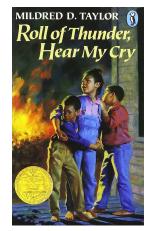
*Scythe* is the first novel of a thrilling new series by National Book Award–winning author Neal Shusterman in which Citra and Rowan learn that a perfect world comes only with a heavy price.

- No PDF Available, Kindle \$10.99, Audiobook \$.99, Hardcover \$14.34, Paperback \$6.64 (New and Used \$2.12- \$12.00)
- Paperback: 464 pages
- $\circ$   $\$  ISBN-10  $\ : \ 144247243X \ or \$  ISBN-13  $\ : \ 978-1442472433$
- Roll of Thunder, Hear My Cry by Mildred D. Taylor
  - Set in Mississippi at the height of the Depression, this is the story of one family's struggle to
    maintain their integrity, pride, and independence in the face of racism and social injustice. And
    it is also Cassie's story—Cassie Logan, an independent girl who discovers over the course of an
    important year why having land of their own is so crucial to the Logan family, even as she learns
    to draw strength from her own sense of dignity and self-respect.
  - PDF Available, Kindle \$8.99, Audiobook \$0, Hardcover \$16.59, Paperback \$7.89 (New and Used \$1- \$5.99)
  - Paperback : 288 pages
  - $\circ$   $\;$  ISBN-10 : 0142401129 or ISBN-13 : 978-0142401125  $\;$

## Directions:

- Read the novel and annotate it based on the prompt that you select.
- ✤ Prompts:
  - Select a **theme** you found compelling in the novel you read over. Your introduction should introduce the theme, your thesis should describe how the theme was developed in the novel (this can be simple, such as to criticize an element of society/politics/etc.), and your body paragraphs should point out specific scenes/examples from the novel that support your thesis.





Scythe	Roll of Thunder, Hear My Cry		
Love and Compassion	Racism		
Death	Freedom		
Coming of Age	Family		
Morality	Justice		

- Analyze the main conflict embodied in your novel. Was it character vs. character, character vs. self, character vs. nature, etc. Describe how this conflict drove the plot of the novel. Your introduction should introduce the type of conflict (and define that conflict). Your thesis should answer the prompt, your body paragraphs should point out specific scenes and examples from the novel that support your thesis.
- Describe the purpose of the setting in your novel. Often, where and when the story takes place are just as important as the story itself. How does the setting of your novel contribute to the novel's purpose? Your introduction should describe the setting. Your thesis should answer the prompt. Your body paragraphs should find examples in which the setting played a major role in the novel.
- Annotations Requirements:
  - > Be handwritten on 3x5 index cards or 3x3 post-it notes (not pieces of paper, typed notes, or prewritten essays)
  - ➤ Include the Theme or Focus at the top of the Card (red line)
  - > Paraphrase or Quote Quotes should be in "parentheses."
  - > Include the **page number**
  - > Include 3 annotations from each section (beginning, middle, end) in the novel (9 total).

Roll of Thunder... Setting or Theme: Racism "The Great Faith Elementary and Secondary School, one of the largest black schools in the county, was a dismal end to an hour's journey. Consisting of four weather-beaten wooden houses on stilts of brick, 320 students, seven teachers, a principal, a caretaker, and the caretaker's cow, which kept the wide crabgrass lawn sufficiently clipped in spring and summer, the school was located near three plantations, the largest and closest by far being the Granger plantation" (34). This detailed description conveys the idea of how isolated and difficult education was at this time. Seven teachers for 320 students meant that there were about 45 students per teacher, and students had to walk for an hour. Despite this, children valued education and worked for a better life.

- Be prepared to take a comprehension test in the first week of classes.
- ♦ You will also write an in-class essay, based on one of the prompts above within the first week of school.
  - > You will not be able to use your book to write the essay, nor will you be allowed to bring a pre-written essay to school.
  - > You are only permitted annotations that follow the requirements above, anything else will be confiscated.
  - Your essay must contain a minimum of three direct quotations at least one from each section (beginning, middle, end) within the novel.

Essay Rubric is below:

	23-25 Points	20-22 Points	17-19 Points	10-16 Points	0-10 Points	Score
Introduction And Conclusion	Well-developed thesisstatement thataddresses the entireprompt. Thesis givesan overview of thewriter's main idea forthe essay and briefsynopsis on how theessay will prove thatpoint.Conclusion is wellconstructed, connectsto the thesis andsummarizes the maintopics without beingrepetitious.	Well-developed thesis statement that addresses most of the prompt. Thesis gives an overview of the writer's main idea, but may not be specific with how the essay will prove the author's point. Conclusion connects to the thesis and summarizes the main topics without being repetitious.	Thesis statement addresses most of the prompt, and gives an overview of the writer's main idea, and attempts to show how the essay will prove the author's point. Conclusion may attempt to connect to the thesis and somewhat summarizes the main topics without being repetitious.	writer's main idea, and did not show how the essay will prove the author's point.	Thesis statement fails to addresses the prompt, does not give an overview of the writer's main idea, and did not show how the essay will prove the author's point. Conclusion does not refer to the thesis or summarize the main points.	
Main Points	Topic sentences refer to the thesis, and the essay has two or three main points which are thoroughly developed with many supporting details from the novel to support the thesis.	Topic sentences somewhat refer to the thesis, and the essay has two or three main points developed with some supporting details from the novel to support the thesis.	Topic sentences attempt but fail to refer to the thesis, and two or three main points are developed with few supporting details from the novel to support the thesis.	Topic sentences do not refer to the thesis, and two or three main points are not developed with very little, if any, supporting details from the novel to support the thesis.	There are no topic sentences and main points are not developed with supporting details from the novel to support a main idea.	

Organization	Logical progression of	Somewhat logical	Progression of ideas	Progression of ideas	No progression of	
	ideas with a clear	progression of ideas	with a clear structure.	lacks a clear structure.	ideas, lacks a clear	
	structure. Each	with a clear structure.	Each paragraph focuses	Each paragraph may not	structure, and each	
	paragraph focuses on	Each paragraph focuses	on one idea at a time	focus on one idea at a	paragraph does not	
	one idea at a time but	on one idea at a time	but may lose some	time and may lose focus	focus on one idea at a	
	always points back to	and points back to the	focus or fail to clearly	or fail to point back to	time and fails to point	
	the thesis.	thesis.	point back to the thesis.	the thesis.	back to the thesis.	
Mechanics	Sentence structure and grammar are correct. There <b>are few to no</b> <b>errors</b> in punctuation, spelling, and word choice. MLA citation is used correctly.	Sentence structure and grammar are mostly correct. There are <b>a</b> <b>few errors</b> in punctuation, spelling, and word choice. MLA citation is used somewhat correctly.	Sentence structure and grammar are somewhat correct. There <b>are a</b> <b>lot of errors</b> in punctuation, spelling, and word choice. MLA citation is not used correctly.	Sentence structure and grammar are not correct. There are <b>many of errors</b> in punctuation, spelling, and word choice, which make the writing confusing. MLA citation is not used correctly.	Sentence structure and grammar are <b>confusing</b> <b>and make the writing</b> <b>difficult to read</b> . MLA citation is not used.	