**English 9/Honors 9 Semester Two**

**Reading Reflection Assignment #1**

This semester’s reading reflections will take a bit of a different turn. Instead of merely recording what you’ve read over every book that you’ve read, this semester you will be asked to connect themes and ideas among the books you’ve read. You will do this assignment two times during the 3rd quarter, and once during the 4th quarter.

You will be writing less, but the stakes will be a higher. You will need to put your best revision and editing skills into practice, along with providing new and interesting insights into your reading.

**For your first reading assignment connect a literary element of *Romeo and Juliet* to similar patterns that you’re seeing in the books that you’ve been reading. Browse the questions on back to help guide your thinking.**

**The Basics:**

1. About 1-3 pages, double-spaced, 12 point font.
2. Organized with a definite beginning, middle, and end.
3. Quotes from both Romeo and Juliet and your outside reading.
4. Works Cited page.
5. Revised and proofread.

**The Good Stuff:**

1. A hook that leads to an intriguing thesis statement.
2. Paragraphs that fluidly build from one idea to the next.
3. Quotes that are infused beautifully into the essay, supporting the connections without disrupting the flow of the essay.
4. A conclusion that draws from the hook and the thesis statement.

**The Best Stuff:**

1. An essay that clearly has been revised and looked over by outside help.
2. Connections that are brilliant and insightful and new.

**DUE DATE \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_**

***Possible* questions to consider:**

1. How do conflicts create more conflicts? For example, there is a feud in Romeo and Juliet that bleeds into the society at large, but also makes the conflicts between individuals more personal.
2. Who are the real victims in any fight or feud?
3. How closely related are the ties between love and war?
4. Mercutio is a “foil” (look that word up) for Romeo. What role does the foil play in literature? How is Mercutio similar to other foils that you’ve encountered in your reading? Do foils exist in non-fiction? How is Mercutio similar to those non-fiction foils?
5. How apt are well-meaning adults to mess things up for young people?
6. How is death treated in literature/non-fiction?