

OCEANA HIGH SCHOOL
Jefferson Union High School District
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May 19, 2009

Dear Parents and Students,

The Summer Reading Program is an important part of the high school educational process. This summer's assignment for 12th grade students is designed to prepare them for humanities class discussions and to begin exploring senior exhibition topics. **These assignments will be due on the first day of school.**

Part I

Read *Fist Stick Knife Gun*, a personal history of violence in America, by Geoffrey Canada.

Check the local libraries and bookstores for a copy of the book.

When reading the book, consider the following argument by the author:

“As an adult I have heard many times the debate about whether violence is part of the human makeup or a learned behavior. There is no way that I can buy the theory that humans have some genetic predisposition to violence.”

Be prepared to discuss the author's arguments for his beliefs AND whether you agree or not with his stance on violence. On the first day of class, there will be a quiz on the book that will be worth a significant amount of points.

Part II

We would like you to use the summer months to begin thinking about and preparing for your senior exhibition. To help with this process, you should read daily newspaper and weekly or monthly magazines. As you're reading, pay attention to topics and events that interest you. If you have already selected a topic for your exhibition, find two articles in a **current newspaper or magazine** that relate to this topic. If you have not selected a topic, find two current articles on a topic that interests you.

- 1. Clip (or make photocopies of) the two articles (each article must be at least 500 words in length)**
- 2. Write a properly formatted annotated bibliography for the two articles. The following is an example of a correct annotation. Make sure you put the annotations in alphabetical order and make sure they are typed.**

Annotation Example:

Berkoff, Fran. “Eating Disorders a Weighty Issue.” Online: Toronto Sun. 31 January 2001: pp.38. Electric Library. 18 May 2009. < <http://www.elibrary.com/s/edumark/>>.

This article, which originally appeared in the Toronto Sun newspaper, discusses psychological and physical problems associated with eating disorders. It reports on interviews with five individuals with eating disorders as well as two medical doctors and three psychologists who have treated people with eating disorders. It is a credible source because its evidence is based on scientific studies by professionals and it is published in a reputable newspaper. It will be a useful resource for my research because it explains the differences between types of eating disorders. It also looks at common difficulties between doctors and patients with eating disorders.

Enjoy your summer. We look forward to an exciting senior year.

Sincerely,

The Senior Humanities Teachers