

Honors English 10

Summer Assignment 2025-26

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*****Please include all three of us in an email if you have a question.**

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<https://bit.ly/SUMMER24ENGLISH10>

You are enrolled in Honors English 10. We look forward to working with you when school starts. To prepare for our first class meetings, complete the following assignment. Come to class ready to discuss this text in detail.

You will read *A Raisin in the Sun* by Lorraine Hansberry. We hope you will enjoy reading this play that was first performed in 1959 and inspired a sequel that was performed on Broadway in 2010. When the play opened on Broadway, Hansberry became, at twenty-nine, the youngest American playwright, the fifth woman, and the only African American to date to win the New York Drama Critics Circle Award for Best Play of the Year.

You will return this book to the school; it is not yours, so do not write in it. You may annotate with post-it notes or keep your own set of notes as you read if you choose. There is no assignment to annotate.

We are asking you to read each act and then stop to respond in writing. **We value your thoughts.** There are no right or wrong answers to these questions. Please don't feel the need to consult or use outside sources because you want to be "right".

You will submit your work on the first day of school when we log onto Google Classroom. So it should be finished before the first day of school. If you do not have access to a computer, you may handwrite your responses neatly.

1. Read Act 1 (pages 23-75).

After reading this section, **respond** personally to what you have read so far. This means that you can provide your reaction, ask questions, make connections, offer a critique, etc. There is no right or wrong answer to this response, but do make sure that you demonstrate an understanding of the story and clearly explain and support your reactions. Using first person is entirely appropriate for this response.

(Over)

2. Read Act 2 (pages 76-130).

After reading this section, **compare** yourself to one of the characters. Examine how you are both like and unlike this character. Consider perspectives, traits, problems, goals, motivations, relationships, etc. Cite quotations from the story and examples from your life as you make this comparison. You may use first person, and you may refer back to Act 1.

3. Read Act 3 (pages 131-151)

After reading this section, **evaluate** what the play seems to say about an issue it raises. Throughout the text, questions about identity, race, gender roles, culture, dreams, privacy, family, poverty, work, pride, responsibility, respect, generational conflict, class, etc. are raised. Choose one of these or choose another issue that you see. What question/s does *A Raisin in the Sun* force us to ask? How does the play answer these question/s? To what extent does it offer answers? Refer to and quote specifics from the text. You may refer back to Acts 1 and 2 in this response.

Each of the three responses should be 250-300 words long. Please put them all into one document and label each section Act 1, Response, Act 2 Response, Act 3 Response. Your document should follow MLA format and include a Works Cited page that lists the book as your source. Below are the instructions for citing a book from the Purdue OWL at owl.purdue.edu.

BASIC BOOK FORMAT

The author's name or a book with a single author's name appears in last name, first name format. The basic form for a book citation is:

Last Name, First Name. *Title of Book*. City of Publication, Publisher, Publication Date.

**Note:* the City of Publication should only be used if the book was published before 1900, if the publisher has offices in more than one country, or if the publisher is unknown in North America.

We will periodically check our school email over the summer in June and July. If you have a question, that is the best way to contact us, but realize you may not hear back from us right away. Beginning in August, we will check it more regularly. Remember to include all three teachers in your email.

