

Google Classroom Code: wz5dwojm

***Due: Day One of Class!**

Summer Assignment 2025: English 3 Honors

Reading Assignment #1: *The Things They Carried* by Tim O'Brien

The Things They Carried is a novel set during the Vietnam War told from the perspective of an American soldier, named Tim O'Brien (though the novel is fictional rather than autobiographical). While Tim O'Brien did in fact serve in Vietnam, the specific events of the novel are largely made-up. The lines between what happen to the fictional soldier named "O'Brien" and the actual author "O'Brien" are blurred, and the humorous, brutal, shocking, eerie, and mundane events of the novel—told in a series of vignettes—dances between the realms of "story-telling truth" and "actual truth."

1. As you read, sticky tab important moments in the novel relating to the following:
 - Characterization
 - Conflict (both internal and external)
 - Reality versus fiction
 - Recurring images/symbols

Then, narrow down all of your sticky tabs to **10 significant moments**.

2. Using these moments, complete the "10 Moments" worksheet.
 - Give the moment a label; the label should be a factual plot point.
 - ex. Holden leaves Pencey Prep
 - Remember, do NOT write "Moment 1"
 - 2-3 sentence explanation of how the moment connects to one or more of the four bullets above in Section 1.
 - ex. The scene demonstrates Kiowa feeling conflicted over...
 - ex. The scene illustrates again the image of...symbolizing...
 - ex. The moment in the novel highlights O'Brien's...[trait with explanation]
 - Complete a quick drawing/sketch of the scene—this is very useful for reviewing the novel before writing about it—something we'll do during the first weeks of school.
 - Make sure to record the page number(s) of the scene!

One Pager:

Create a one-pager for the novel. Be creative, and make sure that the entire page is filled up with information, symbols, drawings, and color. There is no one “right” way to make a one-pager; your one-pager should express your creativity and your individual reaction to and interpretation of the novel. These are largely graded based on effort, thoughtfulness, and creativity.

Be sure to...

- Give the one-pager a title
- Include drawings and symbols
- Use single words and short phrases denoting overarching ideas
- Include short quotes with page numbers “Quote from the text” (#).
- Use lots of color
- Put in effort

You might also...

- Ask a question about the novel and write a short response to that question
- Create and incorporate “catch phrases” that highlight key ideas or scenes

To Summarize, you are completing the following, due the first day of class...

1. Read the novel, *in its entirety*.
2. Sticky-tab the novel and complete a “10 Moments” worksheet with thoughtful analysis.
3. Create an elaborate, thoughtful, unique one-pager showcasing your understanding of the book.



