

Summer Reading

for students entering English 11

In the second half of the summer read *Drown*, a collection of short stories by Junot Diaz. The accompanying assignment, which is described below, will count as extra credit, and your score will be added to your first quarter grade.

After you read, compose a three page, carefully planned and thoroughly developed essay in which you analyze the question below. Your essay should have a strong, guiding thesis, cohesive topic sentences, meaningful and relevant textual support that is correctly cited using MLA format, and a conclusion that explores the broader implications of your topic.

How do the struggles of the main character reflect your vision of the American Dream? What aspects of your vision of the dream are absent in the stories?

This response will provide your teacher with a writing sample and will be scored as an essay for the first marking period. It is due on the first day of class and will be assessed using the attached school-wide writing rubric.

If you have any questions, please email Mr. Michels at dmichels@hvrhs.org