

Harrison High School English Department & STEM Academy

Honors 9th Literature for STEM Pre-Course Assignment

Obtain a copy of *The Immortal Life of Henrietta Lacks* by Rebecca Skloot. You may purchase this text, borrow from someone, or check one out from the library. The copy does not need to be new, but you do need to have this book in your sole possession (no sharing with other STEMMies!) for the duration of the semester.

Your assignment is to read the text by or before August 15, 2022.

As you are reading, you may wish to annotate the text. Although the annotations themselves are neither graded nor required, former students have had success on the assessment when they have prepared by carefully reading for details and tracking the elements listed below. It is always a good idea to make note of especially significant quotes while reading, either by highlighting, with sticky notes, or by using a self-created system for tracking text evidence.

Invitation to Notice

The following items may be useful to track during your reading:

1. Author's purpose & intended audience
2. Point of view and its effect on the reader
3. Text structure (chronological, cause and effect, order of importance)
4. Author's choices in language (diction, imagery, symbolism, figurative language, syntax)
5. Key details from the narrative (plot points, setting shifts, characterization methods, conflicts)

Further details regarding the work you'll complete with this text will be disseminated when you begin school in August. This text will be used in both your literature and STEM classes, so put forth your best effort!

Questions regarding this assignment should be emailed to jordan.motsinger@cobbk12.org.