

## Mr. Lorusso's English 1 Honors

*Welcome to English I Honors – a class that will prove to be both challenging and exciting! Before we begin our study of literature together in September, you are required to complete important assignments independently. The assignments include reading two texts, The Alchemist and Warriors Don't Cry, and completing the following assignments:*

### Summer Assignment for The Alchemist

Think about these themes as you read the book The Alchemist.

1. Every person has a destiny (a reason / purpose for living).  
"To achieve one's Personal Legend is a person's only real obligation."
2. Our destiny is related to what we truly enjoy doing.  
"When we really want something, it's because that desire originated in the soul of the universe."
3. We know what our destiny is when we are young.  
"Young people are not afraid to dream."
4. Nothing forces us to follow or not follow our destiny. It is our choice.  
"The world's greatest lie is that at a certain point in our lives, we lose control of what's happening to us and our lives become controlled by fate."
5. Most people choose not follow their destiny because they care too much about what society thinks.  
"What people think about bakers and shepherds becomes more important for them than their own Personal Legends."
6. It is important to pay close attention to what is happening around and within us.  
"Follow the omens."  
"Wherever your heart is, there you will find your treasure."
7. Following your destiny will not be easy but you should not give up.  
"There is only one thing that makes a dream impossible to achieve: the fear of failure."
8. If we follow our destiny, God will help us.  
"When you really want something, all the universe conspires in helping you to achieve it."  
"If God leads the sheep so well, he will also lead a man."
9. True love will not stop us from following our destiny.  
"Love never keeps a man from pursuing his Personal Legend."

10. If we follow our destiny, it will benefit others as well as ourselves.  
"The world we live in will become better or worse, depending on whether we become better or worse."
11. We must balance following our destiny with taking care of our responsibilities.  
"The secret of happiness is to see all the marvels of the world, and never to forget the drops of oil on the spoon."
12. Sometimes, our treasure is often closer than we think.  
"He laughed, his heart bursting with joy, because now he knew where his treasure was."

### **Final Assignment:**

Type a speech which you will deliver within the first few days of the opening of school about one of the above themes. Your speech should include the following:

- An appropriate opening
- An explanation of how the theme comes out in the book
- An explanation of how the quote that follows the theme you have chosen above is used in the book
- An example and explanation of how this theme applies to something in real life and not from the book
- An appropriate closing

Follow these directions to complete the assignment and to prepare your speech:

- Type out the speech. Make sure it is double spaced. Use a 12 point font.
- Create notes on note cards from the typed speech. The notes should be done in bullet form; there should **not be any** complete sentences on the note cards
- Practice delivering your speech; make sure it is 2-3 minutes long
- You must have both the written version and the note cards with you on the first day of school. It is a good idea to make a copy of each for yourself before you hand them in.

**This assignment will be worth 100 points**

# Warriors Don't Cry

As you read *Warriors Don't Cry*, stop after chapters 4, 7, 10, 13, 16 and the Epilogue to respond to the following prompts. Follow these guidelines when completing these responses:

- **Type your responses using a 12 point font. Single space each response. Double space between responses.**
- **Be sure to rephrase the prompt question within your response. For example, question number one asks “Do you agree that Melba is a hero?” Your response should begin with “I think Melba (is/is not) a hero because ...”**
- **Do not use a pronoun before you use a proper noun. Do not write “I think she is a hero.” Write “I think *Melba* is a hero.”**
- **Answer all parts of the questions.**
- **Understand that some questions can be answered in a sentence or two and some require more detailed responses.**
- **Be sure to respond in a way that demonstrates that you have read, understood, and thought about the contents of this book.**
- **Understand that these writings will be the notes you can use when writing an essay within the first two weeks of school.**
- **Be sure to have these typed out responses with you on the first day of school.**

## Respond to Chapters 1–4

**1. Personal Response** Melba Pattillo Beals wrote that some people called her a hero for participating in the integration of Central High School. Do you agree that Melba is a hero? Why or why not?

**2. Reasoning** What were Melba's reasons for volunteering to integrate Central High School? Use the word integrate in your response.

**3. Evaluating Sources** Is the author's account of what happened during the battle for school integration accurate and credible? How do you know?

**4. Generate Questions** Write a question about this section for someone else reading this book.

**5. Inference** How might the events and outcome have been different if the governor had supported integration?

## Respond to Chapters 5–7

- 1. Personal Response** Melba felt freedom had been taken from her. She wrote in her diary that freedom was not integration. What are your thoughts about Melba’s loss of freedom?
- 2. Conclusions** Why didn’t Governor Faubus go to the court hearing even though he had been ordered to appear? Use the word *protest* in your response.
- 3. Summarize** Explain and describe Melba’s first day at Central High School.
- 4. Generate Questions** Write a question about this section for someone else reading this book.
- 5. Argument** In Chapters 5–7, Governor Faubus and the federal court continued to disagree about integration. Do you feel that Faubus’s argument was fair and reasonable? Why or why not?

## Respond to Chapters 8–10

- 1. Personal Response** Melba was grateful to have Danny’s protection. He made her feel “specially cared about.” What do you think about the way Danny protected Melba? What do you think about how the Arkansas National Guard protected her?
- 2. Cause and Effect** Why did the black students and the white students who supported integration have to act as if the hatred did not affect them? Use the word *hatred* in your response.
- 3. Author’s Point of View** Melba wrote that if reporters had not been covering the story of the integration, the black students might have been hanged. What did she mean? Why did she feel that way?
- 4. Generate Questions** Write a question about this section for someone else reading this book.
- 5. Opinion** In Chapters 8–10, the attacks on Melba and the other students during the integration became more dangerous. Do you think the presence of the 101<sup>st</sup> Airborne Division kept Melba and the other African American students safe? Why or why not?

## Respond to Chapters 11–13

- 1. Personal Response** A public meeting was held, at which students could safely speak their minds about the integration. If you had a chance to speak at the meeting, what would you have said?
- 2. Irony** Melba always thought of her sixteenth birthday as the beginning of freedom. What about Melba’s life made this ironic? Use the word *integrate* in your response.
- 3. Inference** At Thanksgiving, Melba said they were eating an integrated turkey when asked if she wanted white meat or dark meat. Why did Mother Lois say she would live to regret that statement?
- 4. Generate Questions** Write a question about this section for someone else reading this book.
- 5. Irony** Melba felt both support and rejection from the African American community during the integration process. Explain how the community reacted to what she was experiencing. What was ironic about the rejection Melba felt from the African American community?

## Respond to Chapters 14–16

- 1. Personal Response** Melba was shocked when she read past diary entries and saw how much she had changed. How had she changed?
- 2. Paraphrase** On page 194, Grandma India told Melba that “dignity is a state of mind, just like freedom.” What did she mean by this? Do you agree or disagree? Use the word *dignity* in your response.
- 3. Inference** Why were Grandma India and Mother Lois afraid when Melba drove Link’s car home? Why did they cover the car to hide it from the police?
- 4. Generate Questions** Write a question about this section for someone else reading this book.
- 5. Making Decisions** Link helped Melba avoid her attackers. If you were Melba, would you have trusted Link? Why or why not?

## Respond to Chapters 17–18 and Epilogue

**1. Personal Response** The black community resented the black students' role in the integration. How would this have made you feel if you were one of the black students?

**2. Author's Point of View** The author wrote, "The effort to separate ourselves . . . is as costly to the separator as to those who would be separated." What did she mean? Use the word *segregated* in your response.

**3. Theme** What do you think is the overall theme or universal truth of this book? Explain why you think what you do.