

English (All students)

Summer 2018

Hello, rising seventh graders! Congratulations on a successful finish to your school year. For your summer reading assignment, you are required to read *Leviathan* by Scott Westerfeld. This book is the first in his steampunk series of the same name, which takes place in an alternate universe version of World War I. While the book is rather long, it is full of action and should keep you engaged from the start. I highly recommend that you read with a purpose. This means annotating passages that will assist you in responding to the assignment below. Please read the assignment requirements carefully.

A major theme for English 7 next year is the notion of **identity**. Identity is often defined as both the way we view ourselves and the way in which others perceive us. As young adults, you are in the process of trying to figure out who you are and where you fit in. Deryn and Alek, the protagonists in the book, are no different. Like you, they make choices in order to control how others perceive them.

Your assignment is to:

- a. Choose two key passages (1 for Deryn and one for Alek) that offer clues to how Deryn and Alek perceive themselves early in the novel.
- b. Write each passage word for word (the passages should be approximately one paragraph in length). Be sure to include the page number.
- c. In your own words, explain what each passage shows about the characters' perceptions of themselves.
- d. Choose two key passages (1 for Deryn and one for Alek) that offer clues to choices those characters make in order to control how others view them. Again, write each passage word for word and be sure to include the page number.
- e. In your own words, explain how each passage shows that the characters have come to view themselves differently than they did in the beginning of the novel.

I will be evaluating your work based on the strength and originality of your **ideas**, the **thoughtfulness and thoroughness** of your responses, and the **clarity and organization** of your writing.

All papers should be...

- Approximately 2 pages (1 for each character)
- carefully proofread
- word-processed
- double-spaced
- 12 point font with one inch margins

Due: The first week of class.

If you have any questions, feel free to contact me at ahogan@mphschool.org. Remember that you are welcome (encouraged, in fact!) to read lots of other books this summer. If you'd like some suggestions, feel free to email me.

Enjoy your summer!

Mrs. Hogan