

Incoming 10th Grade Summer Reading and Writing Assignments

The incoming 10th-grade summer readings for English and History, respectively, are *Signs Preceding the End of the World* by Yuri Herrera, and *The Return of Martin Guerre* by Natalie Zemon Davis. As you read these books, you will be expected to annotate the text. Since we won't all be reading at the same time, it will be beneficial for you to highlight, underline, and record your thoughts *within* the pages of your physical book; this will serve to further thoughtful and efficient class discussion when we convene in September. **You must bring your annotated books to the first day of class.**

For English, *Signs Preceding the End of the World* is the story of a young protagonist crossing an international border in search of her brother. This short novella is also a symbolic journey of the individual from one life to another; it is a tale that mirrors the progression of a soul through the Aztec underworld, Mictlán, but uses contemporary settings in order to investigate the experience of migration, borders, and the collision of cultures. It is an interesting, short, and challenging book!

As you read, be sure to annotate (underline, highlight, take notes in the margins, etc.). You'll also be required to complete the following for **each chapter (9 total) of the novella**:

1. In 3-4 sentences, choose one event from the chapter and make a connection to **your own life**; where have **you** experienced a similar situation, character, event, emotion, etc.? Be sure to identify what section of the story you are making a connection with.
2. Copy 1 quotation in the chapter that you feel is important and, in 2-3 sentences, analyze its significance to the story or explain why it's interesting to you.

These responses should be written on a Google doc and shared with Matt Norrdin // mnorrdin@crms.org

For history, the book *The Return of Martin Guerre* reconstructs an actual historical event from 16th-century France. The reading introduces the topic of historiography, how historians evaluate accounts and evidence, and what makes a good historical source, and why some are better than others.

There are two trials to consider the identity of the returned man. In order to assess each trial, you will need to respond to the following questions:

1. At the first trial in Rieux, the returned man is found to be an impostor and sentenced to be drawn and quartered. Which four pieces of evidence best convince YOU that the man deserves to die? You need supporting evidence from the text, with page numbers, that defends your four choices.
2. At the second trial, in Toulouse, the returned man was about to be named the real Martin Guerre. Which three pieces of evidence presented at the trial sway YOU that the man is indeed Martin Guerre? You need supporting evidence from the text, with page numbers, that defends your choices.
3. A man who claims he is the REAL Martin Guerre walks into court at the end of the second trial. Which three pieces of evidence sway the court—and you—to declare that the newly arrived

man is the real Martin? You need supporting evidence from the text, with page numbers, that defends your answer.

These responses should be written in a Google Doc and shared with Beth Krasemann // bkrasemann@crms.org