

HONORS ENGLISH 9
Summer Assignment (Part 1)

Mr. Stubbs

Please turn this into the high school office in an envelope addressed to Mr. Stubbs before August 12, 2011

Why are we reading this book? The first unit we will cover when you return to school is the personal narrative / memoir unit. To prepare for discussing and writing personal narratives / memoirs, you must read *Tuesdays With Morrie* by Mitch Albom. Furthermore, this is a book that has been praised by millions and remained at the top of the *New York Times* bestseller list for four years. Hopefully you will enjoy it, too!

THE ASSIGNMENTS:

1. Before you begin reading, preview the book. Read the front and back covers, read the “Praise for *Tuesdays With Morrie*” in the front, notice the copyright date, look over the Table of Contents, and read about the author in the back of the book.

2. During the reading, you will write letters/reading logs responding to sections of the book. Please choose and ask an adult (parent, neighbor, family friend) to read this book with you. This adult will also write letters/reading logs responding to sections of the book. Here’s how it will work:

- Read, at the same time, the first section (pages 1-47). You will write a letter/reading log to the adult about this first section. Then, the adult will write a letter/reading log to you about what you have written in your letter and additional thoughts concerning the first section of the book.
- Read, at the same time, the second section (pages 48-99). You will write a letter/reading log to the adult about this second section. You should respond to what the adult wrote in the first section. Then, the adult will write a letter/reading log to you about what you have written in your letter and additional thoughts concerning the second section of the book.
- Read, at the same time, the third section (pages 100-141). Follow the instructions above.
- Read, at the same time, the third section (pages 142- the end). Follow the instructions above.

What should we write about? Write your reactions to something that is said or something that happens. Write about certain passages that affect you or relate to you and how. Write about a statement that has sparked your thinking and why it has sparked your thinking. Morrie’s aphorisms are excellent statements to write about. What is Morrie teaching you? How is Morrie’s story changing you? Please see the “Reader’s Log Starters” handout for more suggestions. Basically, you and the adult are having an ongoing discussion about the book on paper. Therefore, you will turn in **eight letters/reading logs**. These may be typed or written. There is not a required length; however, your response should reflect deep thinking and much reflection.