



Literature III: Identity and Resistance in Literature (Grade 11)

Summer Reading Assignment

Purchase and read either *The Red Tent* by Anita Diamant or *Homegoing* by Yaa Gyasi.

During the first week of school, you will write an in-class essay based on your summer reading. You should prepare one page of notes or an outline that helps you address the prompt in class. This document may include bullet points, chapter references, and reminders—but not full paragraphs.

You will have one 50-minute class period to respond to the following:

Choose *either The Red Tent or Homegoing* and write an analytical essay in which you explore a central theme in the novel. Develop an arguable thesis statement that presents a clear interpretation of how this theme is revealed, developed, or challenged throughout the text.

Your essay should:

- Present a strong, arguable thesis about the theme's role in the novel.
- Support your argument with specific examples from the text (you are not required to write out full quotations).
- Analyze how the author uses literary elements—such as character development, point of view, symbolism, or structure—to explore the theme.
- Be well-organized, clearly written, and demonstrate attention to grammar, spelling, and sentence clarity.

This assessment will help set the tone for the year and give insight into your analytical writing skills. Be thoughtful, focused, and do your best.