

~Extra Credit Opportunities~

8th Grade English ~ Sims

Students may receive up to 5 Points per extra credit assignment completed for a total of 25 extra credit points that will be added to all less than perfect grades to improve the student's overall average. There are 5 extra credit chances students can take advantage of once per semester. Once an extra credit assignment has been completed and added to a grade, the student cannot repeat that opportunity; therefore, it is highly suggested that you choose your opportunities wisely and manage time well on your part. I will determine how many extra credit points you receive based on the work that you turn in, and I will also add your points to assignments that will help your grade the most in the long run.

- 1.) One way to earn extra credit points is to choose a library book, any genre, style, or topic, as long as it is over 120 pages, and **write a 1-2 page book review** of your selection after you read it. Sample questions that may help you write your review include: What was the plot of the story? (Summarize it.) Did you like the book you chose? If you did not like the book, why was that? Who was your favorite/least favorite character? Would you recommend this book to another person? The book review will be graded on your detail—proving that you actually read the book—and the grammar as well as length of your response (1 page refers to one full page, not $\frac{3}{4}$ of a page!)
- 2.) Another extra credit opportunity would be to go see the play the high school drama club will be performing this semester. If you simply sign the attendance sheet and bring me your dated ticket, I will give you 2 points. To earn the full 5 extra credit points, I will ask that you **write a 1-2 paragraph reflection** on the performance. Similar to the book review, some sample questions to answer could include: Who was your favorite actor? Did you enjoy the play? (It's perfectly fine if you didn't, just be honest) If there was one thing you could change about the play, what would that be? Did you learn any life lessons from watching the performance? Would you recommend the show to others?
- 3.) If you are unable to attend the school's play production or you enjoy theatre and would like to earn more extra credit points by seeing another show, I will allow you to complete the same **reflection** as the previous opportunity as long as you ask me about the production you are planning to see in advance and you bring me some sort of documentation to prove that you went, preferably a timestamped ticket or a play program. If you would like to see another show, but do not know how to access local theatre information, feel free to ask me, and I will direct you to some local resources that might help you choose where and when you would like to see another show.
- 4.) Another way to earn extra credit points would be to **volunteer your time** either before or after school at the high school library. In order to complete this task, you will need to speak with the head librarian about available times, and sign up for your volunteer hours/time. Depending on your attitude, work, and time pledged as well as time actually fulfilled, according to the librarian's assessment of your work, I will determine how many extra credit points you deserve. I highly recommend that you begin volunteering your spare time because it is a great addition to your resume later on.

5.) Finally, you can also earn extra credit points by creating and sharing accurate study materials, quizlets, and reviews with your fellow classmates in preparation for upcoming tests or assignments. If you choose to take advantage of this opportunity, I ask that you approve your ideas with me and then get my permission before sharing your study materials with the rest of the class so I can check for accuracy. Some possible ways to fulfill this assignment would include:

- Making a Google/PowerPoint/Prezi slideshow of vocabulary words and definitions
- Publishing a YouTube/Jing Presentation capture video summary of a book, short story, poem, or other work.
- Creating a wiki of major study topics/questions with answers and allowing other students to collaborate.
- Creating a Google Forms Quiz to help review for upcoming tests.

Any of these options would fulfill the opportunity, but if you have an idea that is not on this list, please feel free to ask for my approval, and I will most likely allow you to follow through with your idea! ☺