

Dallas Christian

English IV Summer Reading 2017

About your teacher: I'm Mrs. Stevenson and this is my third year at Dallas Christian. My husband and I have a 15-month-old son, Beckett, and a baby girl due in September of this year! Other than spending time with my family, I love music and currently serve on the worship team at my church. I look forward to meeting y'all and getting to know you in the upcoming school year.

ASSIGNMENT:

Over the summer you will need to read *Tuesdays with Morrie* by Mitch Albom and complete the corresponding assignment. The assignment is intended to guide your reading and focus your thoughts in preparation for the discussions, summer reading test and writing assignments you will engage in when you return in August. **The assignment is due on the first day of school.**

Make sure you read all of the assignment directions and are clear on all parts. It's up to you to email me with any questions, and I strongly suggest you ask me if you have any confusion. And please, no plagiarism or copied material from the Internet. Bring your book and printed journal assignment on the first day of school. Don't forget them.

Your summer reading assignment is to annotate the text and keep a dialectical journal as you read. Please see the annotation and dialectical journal instructions on page 2 for more information. You should:

- **annotate 15 or more passages in the text, and**
- **respond with 12 or more entries in your dialectical journal.**

***Be prepared to take a test over *Tuesdays with Morrie* upon your return to school.**

Happy reading!

Sincerely,

Mrs. Stevenson
lstevenson@dallaschristian.com

Annotation and Dialectical Journal Instructions

One way to read actively is to annotate the text. To annotate a book, you simply choose what you think is important (or what you like) and underline/highlight, and note it in the margin of the book. Annotate as you read *Tuesdays with Morrie*. Reading journals, or dialectical journals, record your reaction to the book you are reading; therefore, you determine what you want to highlight/underline, and make note of in the margins of the book. In other words, you must write in the book! You may note what a character says or does, or you may note something about the author's writing.

Your goal is to gather quotes that catch your attention and then to respond to the quotes by analyzing them. You may respond to ideas by writing about a person, a setting, an event, or a theme in the text. Why did the quote pop out to you? You may choose quotes that you find particularly insightful or interesting or funny. Is something unusual or quirky?

You will do your journal over *Tuesdays with Morrie* **using quotes from throughout the book. You should title your journal: Reading Journal for Tuesdays with Morrie. It must be typed in Times New Roman, 12 pt font.** You will need to locate 12 quotes from the text and write a response explaining the importance of that particular quote.

A word of warning: Do not depend on internet sites to replace the actual reading of the book. Sparknotes, Cliff's notes, Shmoop, etc. cannot communicate the concepts or give the insight of the actual text you've been assigned. You must read for understanding; you must respond in a written journal to the author's thoughts and concepts. These are the exact skills you must develop to be successful in this course.

Possible ways to begin your analysis:

Ideas:

I wonder if this means....

I don't understand this because....

I like/dislike this idea because...

I agree with this idea because...

This part is confusing because...

This idea makes me feel...

This idea reminds me of the character _____ in the story _____.

I didn't expect the author to say this because...

The idea reminds me of....

This quote is particularly effective/thought-provoking/ depressing/unusual because...

I need to know/hear/find out more about...

Sometimes I feel just like the character _____ when...

This makes me think that _____ will happen later.