

Summer Reading Assignment

I'm so looking forward to having you as my students next year in English 101! Because many colleges place extra importance on the junior year in high school and you will earn college credit at NJIT upon successful completion of this course, it is especially important to practice your reading and writing skills throughout the summer. Please complete the assignment outlined below by **Friday, September 5, and submit it to my "English 101 Summer Assignment 2025" Google Classroom site. (The code is: 4xorxkpk)** It is not designed to torture you, but to help keep your brains working over the lazy, hazy days of summer.

In English 101 we will read mostly nonfiction, and we'll explore the ways writers deliberately use language to achieve a particular purpose. While throughout the year our primary texts will include essays, articles, speeches, and sometimes videos, films, and ads, we'll begin this summer with a book of longform journalism, *Enrique's Journey*, by journalist Sonia Nazario. Here is a description of the book by the publisher:

"Based on the Los Angeles Times newspaper series that won two Pulitzer Prizes, this astonishing story puts a human face on the ongoing debate about immigration reform in the United States. Now a beloved classic, this page-turner about the power of family is a popular text in classrooms and a touchstone for communities across the country to engage in meaningful discussions about this essential American subject.

Enrique's Journey recounts the unforgettable quest of a Honduran boy looking for his mother, eleven years after she is forced to leave her starving family to find work in the United States. Braving unimaginable peril, often clinging to the sides and tops of freight trains, Enrique travels through hostile worlds full of thugs, bandits, and corrupt cops. But he pushes forward, relying on his wit, courage, hope, and the kindness of strangers." –Lila Quintero Weaver

While *Enrique's Journey* can be disturbing and upsetting, this story is so important because it humanizes and elicits compassion for people who are often objectified and scapegoated by people in positions of power.

I strongly recommend starting to read the book right away and reading every day until you finish. It's too long to save until the last minute. This will be graded and there will be an assessment shortly after we return to school. Please work hard to complete this assignment, and then I hope you will make time to relax and enjoy the summer, too!

Due Date:

How to Submit: Ms. Metsch-Ampel's **English 101 Summer Assignment 2025 Google Classroom** page.

CODE: 4xorxkpk

Email: metschra@orange.k12.nj.us

DIRECTIONS for Summer Assignment

PART I: MLA Heading: Start by creating a Google Doc with the MLA heading, as shown below. Use Times New Roman, 12-point font. Create 1-inch margins and double-space the document.

Your name
Ms. Metsch-Ampel
English 101
Date

Summer Assignment: *Enrique's Journey*, by Sonia Nazario

PART II: Author Research

Before beginning to read the book, do some research on the author and answer the questions below. Start by reading the information in the book, and do some additional research. Type your responses to the questions below in complete sentences using formal spelling, grammar, and punctuation.

- Who is the author?
- What are his or her qualifications for writing on this subject?
- What other relevant and/or interesting information about the author did you find? Include at least three things, and cite your sources.
- Create a Works Cited page to document the source of your information.

Part III: Dialectical Journal

Once you have completed your research about the author, read the following pages of the book:

- The map and Prologue on pages vi to xxvi.
- Chapters One through Six, pages 3 to 196.
- The Afterward ("Immigrant Nation"), pages 273 to 295.

As you read, select 10 meaningful passages **from each section outlined above** that resonate with you for emotional, ethical, and/or rational or logical reasons. Type your selected passages in the appropriate column, as shown in the example below. The passages can be a few sentences or a paragraph in length, **and you must take quotations from each of the sections listed above.** Follow these directions, and type everything, as shown in the example.

1. **First column:** write out the entire passage **and include the page number.**
 2. **Second column:** paraphrase the passage. Provide context: what is happening before and after this passage appears in the text?
 3. **Third column:** analyze and respond to the passage in full. Does it appeal to your sense of right and wrong, your emotions, or your sense of reason? What does the passage mean to you? Why did you choose it? Examples:
 - Insights the passage gives you
 - Moral or ethical questions the passages raise
 - Connections to history, the news and/or politics
 - Connections to other works you have read
 - Examples of wonderful writing and why you like it
- **Your response should be longer than the selected quotation or passage.** Responses should be typed, written in complete sentences, and inserted in the appropriate place.

Example Dialectical Journal Set-up:

Your name
Ms. Metsch-Ampel
English 101
Date

Summer Assignment: *Enrique’s Journey*, by Sonia Nazario

[INSERT AUTHOR INFORMATION HERE]

Dialectical Journal

Quotation/Passage & Page Number	Paraphrase or Summary	Analyze and React (Why does the passage resonate with you? Why did you choose it?)
I played a lot of Monopoly growing up. Like most players of the game, I loved drawing a yellow Community Chest card and discovering a “bank error” that allowed me to collect \$200. It never occurred to me not to take the cash. After all, banks have plenty of money, and if one makes an error in your favor, why argue? (1).	The author is remembering that a common childhood game had a positive moment when a player received “free” cash because a bank made a mistake. This is the way the book begins and sets up the idea of the “Cheating Culture.”	By beginning with a reference to a childhood game, the author reminds the audience of something that most people probably remember— not just the game, but the excitement of a “bank error” card. He also issues the question that “banks have plenty of money” so “why argue?” This mimics what most people would say in real life to justify why they should keep money that isn’t rightfully theirs. In real life, I think many people would just take the money. We tend to view banks as huge institutions that will not miss a few dollars here and there. This idea that Wall Street continues to pay out bonuses while the “little guy” is barely getting by is especially prevalent now when inflation is high and people are having trouble making ends meet.