To: Students with tentative Honors English 8 placement for 2018-19

(Placement is contingent upon the successful completion of the fourth marking period and the final exam. )

I look forward to meeting you all in September. However, to help you prepare for the new year, you are to read <u>The Adventures of Tom Sawyer</u> by Mark Twain. Reading is the best way to expand your intelligence and to increase your ability to use language while also learning life lessons.

You will be expected to continue your reading throughout the year. You should read no less than 15 minutes every day.

You are to react to the literature, and answer questions on the outline by following the writing prompts. Answer in complete, grammatically correct sentences. Always use the same format. You may make additional copies or download more outlines from my school web page.

As long as you use the same format, you may write on loose-leaf paper. Please write on every other line. Use blue or black ink. If you are typing, use black ink and use Arial or Times New Roman, font size 12.

## Beginning-Assignments - Read the information about Samuel Clemens and the Preface

Directions: On a separate sheet of paper, answer the following questions in complete sentences. Remember to re-state the question in your answer. Write on every other line.

- 1. Based on your reading, write 5 things you know about the author that you think might be reflected in the book.
- 2. What is the tone of the preface?
- 3. What does the author say is the purpose of the book?
- 4. In no less than 6 sentences, tell how your life would have been different, if you were born the year 1865.

## **Body-Assignments**

Directions: You may use the outlines, you may type, or a use separate sheet of paper as long you follow the outline format.

## For each five chapters:

- write out the titles, and predict what will happen in each chapter
- write at least a four sentence summary for each chapter. Write the title
  of the chapter before you begin the summary. You will have at least 20
  sentences on each outline.
- write at least one question, one observation, and one reaction from any of the five chapters.

## **End- Assignments**

At the end of the book, in at least a five paragraph essay, discuss each of the following bullets and how they helped communicate the life lessons that have made <u>Tom Sawyer</u> a classic novel.

- From five items you wrote about the author, which ones were reflected in the novel?
- What was the theme?
- How did the tone you noticed in the preface, influence the theme?
- Prove that the book **did or did not** achieve Mark Twain's stated purpose.
- Would you recommend this book to someone else to read? Why or why not?

This will be collected at the beginning of the school year.

There will be a test when you return.

Have a great summer.