Honors Humanities 9

Summer Reading 2021

Dear Students:

Welcome to high school and 9th Grade Honors Humanities. This summer, you must read *The Epic of Gilgamesh,* a set of poems preserved on clay tablets surviving from ancient Mesopotamia (of the third millennium BC). The *Epic of Gilgamesh* is one of the important pieces of epic poetry from human history, predating even Homer's *Iliad* by roughly 1,500 years. *Gilgamesh* tells of the various adventures of a hero-king, including his quest for immortality, and an account of a great flood similar in many details to the story of Noah from the *Torah*. It is one of the oldest things you can read on planet Earth.

There are many translations and editions available in bookstores, libraries and online. However, for this class we will use the Penguin Books edition translated by N.K. Sandars. Here is the ISBN so you can purchase the exact copy we will be using: ISBN: 014044100X.

For each chapter (or book) please type a brief summary. You can find an example of what a summary should look like on the next page. Make your summary look the same (namely: single-spaced, *Ariel Narrow* font, and font size 11). Also, *do not use any sources other than the book in writing your summary*.

Best Regards,

Dr. Lee

**[Student’s Name]**

**Dr. Lee**

**Humanities 9**

**21 August 2021**

***The Epic of Gilgamesh* – Summarized**

**Chapter 1**Gilgamesh is a horrible king who is cruel to his people. He takes what he wants and forces the people to build the walls of the city, Uruk. He is so strong that he takes the brides of the other men on their wedding nights. The people in Uruk plead for the gods to help them. As a result, the gods hear and command the goddess Aruru to create someone with enough strength to counter Gilgamesh.

**Chapter 2**

*(The remainder of your summaries should look like this.)*