JC Bermudez Senior High School
Pre-AICE English Language (9th Grade)
2026 Summer Reading Assignment

Assignment deadlines: Due the second day of class.
You must complete this by the deadline. **Late work will not be accepted!**

Academic dishonesty will not be tolerated! All work must be your own. Any paper which is plagiarized or produced using ChatGPT will receive Zeroes and your parents will be contacted.

Novel: The Secret Life of Bees by Sue Monk Kidd

Creative Responses
Directions: Choose **two** of the following options writing 250-300 words for each choice.

1. **Movie Recommendations**: From all the movies you've seen in the last couple of years, pick three you would recommend to Lily Owens to see. Give a brief summary of each movie and then, more importantly, explain why you think the character should see it, making sure to include specific scenes from the novel that relate to the movie. Write one paragraph for each movie, with the explanation taking up the most details.
2. **Dream Vacation**: Where do you think Lily would most like to go on a vacation? Pick a spot, describe it, and explain why she would want to go based on research you conduct on the locale. Your explanation should be 2 paragraphs long. Then write a day-by-day schedule/itinerary (for 3 days) of what the character would do each day and why you think the character would enjoy this activity making sure to cite specific characteristics and scenes from the novel.
3. **Talk to Author**: Write a letter to Sue Monk Kidd explaining to her why you think she wrote the book and what she was trying to show through the book. Be sure to explain what you got out of reading the book and cite specific scenes to support that. The letter needs to be at least 3 paragraphs long.
4. **Create a Character's Room**: We learn a lot about people by what they keep in their closets, what they have on their walls, what they choose to put in a room. Create Lily's bedroom based on her passions or interests as she expresses them in the novel. Draw the room and then write 3 paragraphs explaining all the items in Lily's room and what they mean to her, making sure to cite specific events from the novel.
5. **Word Collage:** Write the title of the book in the center of a sheet of paper. Then look through magazines for words, phrases, and sentences that illustrate or tell something important of the novel. Find at least 15 words/phrases/sentences. Then write a 3-paragraph response explaining why you choose those words/phrases/sentences, making sure to cite specific events from the novel.

You will be graded based on the following rubric:

Requirements	Possible Pts.	Points Received
Content & Presentation:		

Activity shows reflection of main character	20	
Activity includes vivid detail	20	
Activity has a fully-developed explanation	20	
Explanation is presented in clear, grammatically-correct sentences	20	
Presentation is neat [typed] and creative	20	
Total [Grade will be Doubled]:	**100**	