




THE MILLENNIUM HIGH SCHOOL

75 Broad Street - 13th floor, New York, NY 10004

PHONE 212-825-9008 • FAX 212-825-9095 • EMAIL 02M418@nycboe.net

Robert Rhodes, Principal

 A collaboration between
District Two and the YMCA
of Greater New York

12TH GRADE SUMMER ASSIGNMENT (3 PARTS)

Congratulations on completing 11th grade and welcome to senior year! We are very excited about the upcoming school year.

All Summer Assignments are due on the first day of school: **Thursday, September 8, 2011.** Read each assignment carefully for specific directions on how the assignment should be turned in. *If you have questions you can contact teachers through the school website:* <http://www.millenniumhs.org>

I. ADVISORY ASSIGNMENT

Welcome to 12th grade! As this will be your last year at MHS, you will begin your preparations for the move to a new community. With this new stage of life will come greater independence, and new choices and challenges. You will find that the choices you make will begin to have a much wider impact on your life and that “opting out” by not making choices will soon become more difficult as you take greater ownership of your path in life. As you travel down this path, it will also be important to remember who you are, where you came from, and what is important to you. **Over the course of the summer you should complete the following three tasks. (Tasks 2 and 3 are to be turned in to your advisor on the first day of school.)**

TASK 1: As you’ve seen over the past three years, reading can be a way for us to gain a view of other people’s perspectives and journeys, as well as a way to help us better understand ourselves. Thus, you should choose one of the following books to read this summer:

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|----------------|--|
| Blumenfeld, L. | <i>Revenge: A Story of Hope</i> |
| Eire, C. | <i>Waiting for Snow in Havana</i> |
| Gladwell, M. | <i>Outliers</i> |
| Gourevitch, P. | <i>We Wish to Inform You That Tomorrow We Will Be Killed With Our Families</i> |
| Gregory, Bruce | <i>Inventing Reality, Physics as Language</i> |
| Hoffman, Paul. | <i>Archimedes' Revenge: The Joys and Perils of Mathematics</i> |
| Hersey, J. | <i>Hiroshima</i> |
| Him, C. | <i>When Broken Glass Floats: Growing Up Under the Khmer Rouge</i> |
| Huong, D. T. | <i>Paradise of the Blind</i> |
| LeBlanc, A. | <i>Random Family</i> |
| Maor, Eli. | <i>To Infinity and Beyond</i> |
| McCall, N. | <i>Makes Me Wanna Holler: A Young Black Man In America</i> |
| Nafizi, A. | <i>Reading Lolita in Tehran</i> |
| Obama, B. | <i>Dreams from My Father: A Story of Race and Inheritance</i> |
| Ojito, M | <i>Finding Mañana</i> |
| Patchett, A. | <i>Truth and Beauty: A Friendship</i> |
| Reeve, S. | <i>One Day in September</i> |
| Sedaris, D. | <i>Dress Your Family in Corduroy and Denim: Essays</i> |




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Seierstad, A.	<i>The Bookseller from Kabul</i>
Stringer, L.	<i>Grand Central Winter</i>
Tyson, T.	<i>Blood Done Sign My Name: A True Story</i>
Wurtzel, E.	<i>Prozac Nation</i>
Yen Mah, A.	<i>Falling Leaves</i>

As you read, think about the author's journey, the choices and challenges they face, and what they learn about themselves – as well as what you might have done in similar situations.

TASK 2: Write your Advisory letter (in response to the book you read). Your Advisory letter should be at least two, typed, double-spaced pages and should respond to the following prompts:

- What choices and challenges does the main character face? What might you have done in similar situations?
- What did the main character learn about him/herself during their journey? What questions does this raise for you as you're thinking about your upcoming journey beyond MHS?
- How did the text and its theme compare to any book you read or any concept you explored in one of your classes this past year? Provide details to develop this comparison.

TASK 3: Fill out the form titled "My College Choices" (on the following pages) to collect research on colleges where you are interested in applying. (You may fill out the form as is or recreate it in a document that you can revise and add to during the fall.) Based on research you perform, college visits you take, this list may be different from the one you came up with during your college meeting.

SUMMER ASSIGNMENT – MY COLLEGE CHOICES

STUDENT NAME _____

ADVISOR _____

MY OWN ▶▶▶▶▶▶▶▶	GPA ▼▼▼▼▼▼▼▼▼▼	SAT CR& M Combined ▼▼

CUNY COLLEGES BY NAME	GPA Range of Average Accepted Student ▼▼▼▼▼▼▼▼▼▼ <i>Use profile we gave you or Google: CUNY Fall 2010 Freshman Admissions Profile for most updated stats</i>	SAT Range of Average Accepted Student (CR&M combined) ▼▼ <i>Use profile we gave you or Google: CUNY Fall 2010 Freshman Admissions Profile for most updated stats</i>	Category- Is this a Reach, Possible or Likely School? Compare to your GPA & SAT above	Deadline To Submit Application	Supplemental Application Required?	CSS/PROFILE Required?
CUNY #1				10/15/11	NO	NO
CUNY #2				10/15/11	NO	NO
CUNY #3				10/15/11	NO	NO
CUNY #4				10/15/11	NO	NO
CUNY #5				10/15/11	NO	NO
CUNY #6				10/15/11	NO	NO

MY OWN ▶▶▶▶▶▶▶▶	GPA ▼▼▼▼▼▼▼▼▼▼	SAT CR& M Combined ▼▼

SUNY COLLEGES BY NAME	GPA Range of Average Accepted Student ▼▼▼▼▼▼▼▼▼▼ <i>Use profile we gave you or Google: SUNY Admissions Info Summary 2010 or SUNY EOP Campus Profile for most updated stats</i>	SAT Range of Average Accepted Student (CR&M combined) ▼▼ <i>Use profile we gave you or Google: SUNY Admissions Info Summary 2010 or SUNY EOP Campus Profile for most updated stats</i>	Category Is this a Reach, Possible or Likely School? Compare to your GPA & SAT above	Deadline to Submit Application	Supplemental Application Required? Google: <i>SUNY Supplemental Applications</i> for most updated info ▼	CSS/PROFILE Required?
SUNY #1				10/15/11		NO
SUNY #2				10/15/11		NO
SUNY #3				10/15/11		NO
SUNY #4				10/15/11		NO

If, by the end of the summer, you are still not sure about your private or out-of-state college choices, that’s okay, you still have time. Just indicate the ones you are thinking about and add a “?” after the name of the college if you’re not sure you’re going to apply there.

MY OWN ▶▶▶▶▶▶▶▶	GPA ▼▼▼▼▼▼▼▼▼▼	SAT CRITICAL READING ▼	SAT MATH ▼▼

PRIVATE or OUT OF STATE COLLEGES BY NAME ▼▼▼	GPA Range of Average Accepted Student Google: CUNY Fall 2010 Freshman Admissions Profile for most updated stats ▼	CRITICAL READING SAT Range of Average Accepted Student (CR) ▼	MATH SAT Range of Average Accepted Student (M) ▼	Category- Is this a Reach, Possible or Likely School? Compare to your GPA & SAT above ▼	Deadline To Submit Application mm/dd/yy ▼	Supplemental Application Required? YES/NO ▼	CSS/PROFILE Required? YES/NO ▼
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For your top three college choices, please type a short explanation of what you learned about each school over the summer and how you feel each of these three schools may be a good fit for you. (Remember: it’s not about finding the best school, it’s about finding the best school for you.) Write the name of each school and your explanation on a separate page and attach it to this one.




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II. HISTORY (GOVERNMENT) ASSIGNMENT

All incoming Government students will read Russell Shorto's *The Island at the Center of the World*. Students will answer the following questions as a companion to their reading. All answers should be typed and handed in on the first day of classes. Questions correspond to the page number at the top of the assignment heading. Make sure to use complete sentences.

The Island at the Center of the World

Questions from pages 1-93

1. What mapping innovation would pave the way for exploration of the New World?
2. What was Shakespeare writing about when he labeled England as the "precious stone set in the sea?" Which of Shakespeare's plays was based on Hudson's voyage?
3. How did Richard Hakluyt create both a sense of nationalism and British historical significance?
4. Why did Henry Hudson sail under the Dutch flag?
5. Why were the Dutch known for their tolerance?
6. What legacy does Shorto believe the Dutch had in terms of shaping the future "character" of the United States?
7. Explain how a Joint Stock company operates using the VOC, Dutch East India Company, as your model.
8. Describe Hudson's initial observations of what would later be known as Manhattan?
9. How did Hudson meet his demise?
10. What role did the Dutch's relationship with Spain play in the settlement of the New World? Explain.
11. What types of men boarded Dutch ships to the New World? Were they similar to types of people settling in English colonies to the North?
12. What geographical and environmental features made Manhattan the perfect site for a permanent Dutch settlement?
13. Why does Shorto consider the concept of stereotyping Native Americans as "primitive" and "Noble and Defenseless" a "cartoonish" mischaracterization?
14. Did the Dutch really cheat the Native Americans out of their Land? Was the purchase of Manhattan Island actually the greatest real estate deal ever? Make sure to elaborate on the conflicting perceptions of land use.
15. Why does Shorto label Manhattan as a "company town"?
16. Why were Minuit and Michaelius rivals over the future direction of Manhattan? Explain each man's perspective.
17. What were Minuit's accomplishments?
18. What was King Charles characterization of the Dutch?
19. List and describe some of the issues between Dutch and the British. What role did media play in the court of public opinion?
20. Why did Van den Bogaert journey into never before traversed Iroquois lands?




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Questions from pages 93-166

1. What does Shorto assert was the ground the “culturally rich society of the seventeenth century” was built? Explain the irony of this sentiment.
2. In your own words explain the meaning of the following statement, “the strength of the state derived not from maintaining a single firmly held faith... but from allowing its citizens freedom of worship and intellectual inquiry.”
3. Why were ordinary Dutch citizens more worldly and cultured than their European contemporaries?
4. What was the role of a schout?
5. Why does Shorto assert that New Netherland “insisted on becoming a place?”
6. Why was resolving New Netherland’s currency crisis essential for the colony’s economic survival?
7. Why was Kieft’s idea to tax the Native Americans for protection a ludicrous idea?
8. How did the Kieft’s appointed 12 man council prove they weren’t a “rubber stamp body?” Why did this group disagree with Kieft’s Indian policies?
9. Describe some of the more unsettling images of what would be known as *Kieft’s War* and explain how that conflict altered the balance of power in New Netherland? What were some of the unintended consequences of the war?
10. What did tolerance mean during the seventeenth century? How is that different from today’s interpretation of the term?
11. How was Adrian Van der Donck a true predecessor to the hippies of 1960’s/1970’s? In what treatise did he chronicle his observations?
12. Why did Van der Donck send a letter to the Hague? What did he hope the letter would accomplish both for New Netherland and for his own career?
13. What experience prepared Peter Stuyvesant to rule New Netherland?
14. What was democratic about Puritanism?
15. How was Adrian Van der Donck able to secure a large tract of land in what is present day Yonkers?

Questions from pages 167-208

1. Why did Stuyvesant believe that New Netherland would run more efficiently as a dictatorship?
2. What role did Calvinism play in the administering of the affairs of New Netherland?
3. How did Manhattan represent “one of the earliest expressions of modern political impulses?”
4. Who caused the end of Kieft’s career? How were they able to accomplish this goal?
5. On pages 177-178 Van der Donck insists on going to Amsterdam. Why?
6. How did Stuyvesant handle Melyn and Kuyter’s alleged treason? Explain what the men were accused of doing?
7. Why weren’t Kieft, Melyn, and Kuyter able to resolve their affairs at The Hague?
8. Why was controlling the Delaware River essential the Dutch’s survival in the New World?
9. Who survived the sinking of *Princess*?

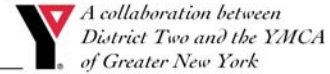


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10. Why did Van Rensselaer believe that he did not need to submit to demands and rule of Peter Stuyvesant?
11. How did Van der Donck gain a place on the Board of Nine?
12. Why did Stuyvesant believe that he was betrayed by the Board of Nine? Whose betrayal most likely stung the most? Why?
13. What was difference between Stuyvesant and Van der Donck's philosophy in regards to the Dutch's long term role in the America's?
14. What was the original reason the Dutch West India Company was created?
15. What types of strange and crazy people arrived in New Netherland? Describe one of these individuals.
16. Why did Stuyvesant arrest Van der Donck? What types of documents was Van der Donck collecting when he was arrested?
17. How did Van der Donck become the "People's Champion?"

Questions from pages 207-254

1. What important historical event was occurring when van der Donck made his return to the Netherlands?
2. Why was van der Donck's map of New Amsterdam such a significant historical contribution?
3. Explain the Dutch power structure during the 1650's? Who held the most power, the States General at The Hague, The House of Orange, or a complicated business structure based on joint stock companies such as The Dutch West India Company? Explain.
4. Why was van der Donck's political crusade both a challenge to the political structure of Holland and an embrace of the ideas of Dutch thinkers like Spinoza and Descartes?
5. What were the dual goals of the publication of van der Donck's "Remonstrance?"
6. What decision did the States General make regarding the governance of New Netherland? What did this decision mean for both Stuyvesant and van der Donck?
7. Why does Shorto assert that it was ironic that the competing "successes" of both Stuyvesant and van der Donck ultimately contributed to the development of New York City "as it did?"
8. Why did the *St Beninio* incident outrage the Puritans? How did this episode lead to a settlement of the division of land between the Dutch and British in the New World? What were the boundaries?
9. What was the States General ruling regarding New Netherland? What would this decision mean for van der Donck, Stuyvesant, and the governance of New Netherland?
10. What English political figure caused van der Donck's dreams never to be realized? How?
11. What were the Navigation Acts? How did the Dutch violation of these acts lead to a trade war?
12. Why did the Dutch's War with the English give Stuyvesant's rule of New Netherland a newfound importance?




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13. Why wasn't van der Donck permitted to return to New Netherland?
14. What does van der Donck sacrifice to return to the New World?
15. Why do you believe Shorto was so enamored with van der Donck?

Questions from pages 257-300

1. What event/calendar date does New York City date its founding?
2. Why does Shorto believe that van der Donck was involved in so called behind the scenes politics? What evidence does he cite?
3. What event spared New Amsterdam from attack?
4. Explain the power structure of the great burgher system?
5. How did the marriage records of New Netherland foreshadow the melting pot America would become?
6. Explain the difference between tolerance and equality in Colonial New Amsterdam?
7. Why did Shorto assert that the "Flushing Remonstrance" was "considered one of the foundational documents of American liberty?"
8. What event did Von Elswick's surrender foreshadow?
9. How did van der Donck die? How was Stuyvesant indirectly responsible?
10. How did Manhattan transfer power from the Dutch to the British?




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III. MATH (PRECALCULUS) ASSIGNMENT

*****Note: Rising 11th Graders taking PreCalculus should also complete this Math assignment.*****

In order to prepare for PreCalculus, we are asking you to complete the following assignment: Use your www.mvamath.com account which you've set up in Algebra2, to complete the assignment "**Rising Senior Summer 2011**" to practice the assigned skills, grouped by topic. You must successfully complete the assigned number (ranging from 1-5) of questions per skill. Feel free to complete more than the required number of questions. Unless noted, the penalty for incorrect responses is "1 off." It is strongly recommended that you do not attempt to complete the entire assignment the night before it is due. Complete it in multiple sittings. Certain topics and skills may require more time to complete. All MVA assignments must be completed by **Wednesday, September 7, 2011 by 9pm.**

*****If you do NOT have an MVA Account, follow these directions.*****

You will need:

- Internet Connection with Mozilla Firefox (Your local library can always provide this)
- An email account

What you will need to do:

- 1) In order for the website to work properly, you will need the latest Mozilla Firefox (free download: <http://www.firefox.com>) or Google Chrome (<http://www.google.com/chrome>)
- 2) Go to the MVA website and bookmark it for future use: <http://www.mvamath.com/>
- 3) Select "Create **New Account**"
- 4) Enter the Teacher code: **775658** (Teacher – Mr. Peled, only for students without an account)
- 5) Select PreCalculus
- 6) Choose a password (make it easy to remember!)
- 7) Check your email for the email from the site
- 8) When you are ready to complete the assignment, log in to the site and start it. You can stop at any time and your score will be saved. Continue later by logging back in.