



CLEVELAND
HUMANITIES
MAGNET

Summer Reading Assignment revised for 2020-2021

Welcome to ninth grade Core! Our curriculum is based on world cultures and globalization. Modern technology and economic growth have made our world smaller and smaller. Increasingly, we recognize that we are no longer just citizens of our own separate countries but citizens of the world, and we must become more knowledgeable about it and more responsible to it.

In preparation for the 2020-2021 school year, you are required to complete a summer reading assignment. The ninth-grade teaching team has selected a book, *Funny in Farsi* by *Firoozeh Dumas*, a memoir about an Iranian girl who journeys with her family to America. This memoir is the personal recollection of Firoozeh Dumas' experiences as a young immigrant who struggles with her own identity as she learns about her new, adopted culture. The book relates to the focus in ninth grade on our ever-shrinking global world as we study the world cultures of Australia, Mexico, Africa, and China as critical thinkers of the twenty-first century. Dumas provides another look at the everyday life and culture of both Iran and America and her book lends itself as an honest discussion about cultural differences, ethnic assumptions, and racial biases.

Review from Amazon.com: This lighthearted memoir chronicles the author's move from Iran to America in 1971 at age seven, the antics of her extended family and her eventual marriage to a Frenchman. The best parts will make readers laugh out loud, as when she arrives in Newport Beach, Calif., "a place where one's tan is a legitimate topic of conversation." She is particularly good making gentle fun of her father, who loves Disneyland and once competed on the game show *Bowling for Dollars*. Many of the book's jokes, though, are groan inducing, as in, "the only culture that my father was interested in was the kind in yogurt." And the book is off-kilter structurally. After beginning with a string of amusing anecdotes from her family's first years stateside, one five-page chapter lurches from seventh grade in California to an ever so brief mention of the Iranian revolution, and then back to California, college and meeting her husband...Despite unevenness, Dumas's first book remains a warm, witty and sometimes poignant look at cross-cultural misunderstanding and family life. Immigrants from anywhere are likely to identify with her chronicle of adapting to America.

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Academic Honesty:

Academic honesty is crucial to the integrity of the individual student and our program. All students at Cleveland Humanities Magnet are expected to meet the highest standards of honesty in their academic work. Moreover, academic dishonesty could bring many consequences such as a zero on the assignment, a full grade lower on the final Core grade, parent conference, student name may be placed on the Magnet cheating list, and so forth. Basically, **do your own work** and do not put off the summer assignment until the last minute.

Turnitin.com is the cloud-based service we use to check for originality and detect plagiarism. It is used by more than 10,000 institutions in 135 countries, including many high school and universities, to manage the tracking, submission, and evaluation of student work online. Due to our high standards of academic honesty, students will be required to use Turnitin.com throughout their four years in the Core program.

How to submit your summer assignment:

- Please turn in your summer assignment online to **turnitin.com**. See instructions below.
- Also, bring a **hard copy** of your summer assignment on **the first day of school** to your **Core English teacher**.

Turnitin.com Instructions:

1. Go to www.turnitin.com
 2. If you already have an account, go to the top right hand corner of the page and enter your email address and password. If you do *not* already have an account, click *Create Account*.
 3. Click on student
 4. Input the class ID number: **24794941**
 5. Input the class enrollment password: **corebaby**
 6. Your class will show up on your homepage. Click on the name of your class to open your class portfolio: **9th Grade CORE 2020-2021**
 7. Your class portfolio shows the assignments your instructor has created and your submissions to the class. To submit a paper, click the submit button next to the paper's assignment. **(Summer Assignment-Funny in Farsi Essay)**
 8. The paper submission page will open. Enter a title for your paper. To select a paper for submission, click the *browse* button and locate the paper on your computer. We accept submissions in these formats:
 - MS Word, WordPerfect, RTF, PDF, PostScript, HTML, and plain text (.txt)
After entering a title for your paper and selecting a file, click *submit* to upload your paper. If your paper is in a format that we do not accept, you can submit it by cut and paste. To submit a paper this way, select *cut & paste* using the pull down at the top of the form. To submit a paper by cut and paste, copy the text of your paper from a word processing program and then paste it into the text box in the submission form. If you submit your paper using the cut and paste method, you can skip the next step.
 - The paper you chose to submit will be shown on the next page. Look over all the information and make sure that it is correct. To confirm the submission, click the *yes, submit* button. The format will be correct on the paper you turn in, even if it does not appear correct when you review it.
 - After you confirm your submission, a digital receipt will be shown. This receipt will be e-mailed to you. To return to your portfolio and view your submission, click the portfolio button.
 9. **Turn in a paper copy on the first day of school.**
 10. Submission starts on **June 15, 2020** and will end on **August 14, 2020 at 11:59 pm**.
- ONLINE INSTRUCTIONS: http://www.turnitin.com/static/pdf/tii_student_qs.pdf

Summer Assignment: *Funny in Farsi*

Instructions: You will need to read the memoir and respond to the prompt below. In order to do both, you will want to pace your reading and plan wisely in order to complete both.

Read the prompt carefully and provide a thoughtful and detailed response.

In her memoir, *Funny in Farsi*, Firoozeh Dumas recalls her life as an Iranian immigrant in the United States. Her stories of adapting to America life shed light on the life of immigrants and demonstrates the struggle in overcoming adversity. One idea she explores are the biases and stereotypes others hold about her and her family. In a well-written and coherent essay, examine the results/impacts of these stereotypes and biases on both the individuals who are making those assumptions and those who are the targets of those assumptions.

Construct an original thesis (argument) and organize your thoughts in a four-paragraph essay:

- Paragraph #1: Introduction
- Paragraph #2: Body Paragraph #1
 - This paragraph should focus on the target of the assumption
 - Include an example from the text to support your argument
- Paragraph #3: Body Paragraph #2
 - This paragraph should focus on the individual making the assumption
 - Include a different example from the text to support your argument
- Conclusion