

Name \_\_\_\_\_ Period \_\_\_\_\_

Anthem Summer Reading  
English 9

The summer reading requirement for English 9 is Ayn Rand's Anthem. You must read this novel in its entirety by the beginning of the school year and must bring it to class on the first day of school with your completed summer reading assignment, which is attached. There will be a test on the novel during the first week of school.

Because the novel is short, it is suggested that you read it within a week or two. It is a quick read. However, if you struggle managing time, here is a suggested pacing guide:

Week #1	chapters I - IV
Week #2	chapters V-VIII
Week #3	chapters IX-XII

If you have any questions or concerns regarding this assignment or the summer reading in general, please contact one of the following teachers:

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## *Anthem* Summer Reading Assignment

**Directions:** Please type or write your answers for the first day of school. Answers must be written legibly to receive credit.

1. "It is a sin to think words no others think and to put them down upon a paper no others are to see... There is no transgression blacker than to do or think alone." What does Rand mean by this? What could motivate such an idea?
2. What word is oddly missing from this novel's 1<sup>st</sup> person P.O.V.?
3. Consider your answer to this question. Why might Rand have done this?
4. Why would it be a great sin "to be born with a head which is too quick?"
5. Why might teachers forbid questions?
6. Considering Equality's scholarly strengths, why do you think he was not sent to the Home of the Scholars?
7. List three to five adjectives to describe Equality 7-2521's life as a street sweeper.
8. Reread the description of the place Equality 7-2521 found. Clarify. What is it?
9. What is the significance of the sentence, "This place is ours. This place belongs to us, Equality 7-2521, and to no other men on earth."?
10. What brings him his first peace in twenty years?
11. What do you think attracts the narrator to Liberty 5-3000?

12. What is the significance of the narrator naming Liberty 5-3000 "The Golden One?" Also, describe the bond that is created between someone who names someone and who he or she names.
13. What has happened to the concept of romantic love in this society? What about familial love? What might be some social and/or emotional repercussion of this?
14. Analyze the names used in this novel: Equality, Liberty, Fraternity, Solidarity, and Union. What do they mean and how does this connect with the life they lead? To what do they allude? What is ironic about this?
15. Why do you think Rand chose to use numbers like 7-2521 attached to the names? What do they suggest?
16. Why do people in certain societies burn or ban books?
17. What "unspeakable word" has been lost? How do you know? Why would speaking this word be the only crime punishable by death?
18. Consider the physical and emotional description of the Transgressor who is put to death for knowing the Unspeakable Word. What are some words you would use to describe the Transgressor? What do you think Rand is saying through this description?
19. What is the new power of nature has Equality 7-2521 has discovered? How do you know that? (p. 57)
20. How does The Golden One's words, "We wish to be damned with you, rather than be blessed with all our brothers" change the meaning of the very words she speaks?

