English 9 R  
2019-2020 Summer Reading Assignment  
*The Little Prince* by Antoine St. Exupery  
Assignment Due Date: Monday, September 9th  
Test Date: Friday, September 13th  

***A SMALL NOTE FROM YOUR TEACHER***  
You may think that this is a silly children’s book.  
Mistakenly, you may think I insult your intelligence with this book choice.  
You are wrong.  
By assigning this classic I ACKNOWLEDGE that you ARE intelligent, insightful, and ready to examine a piece of literature that is complex work of philosophy, psychology and theology.  
It just happens to be disguised as a children’s book.  

This novella, *The Little Prince* by Antoine St. Exupery, is a classic tale and dearly beloved by people all around the globe. I hope that as you read you are able to discover why it is so beloved and that you join the ranks of those who hold it so dear.  

*For the artists among you:* Use the internet to discover the artwork dedicated to the book. Etsy has a treasure trove of materials, too!  
*For those who love literature:* See beyond the delightful story to the symbolism and philosophy the author wants you to consider!  
*For those fascinated with psychology and who want to understand humans:* Read the book as a study in personality types.  
*For all of you:* Each chapter contains a deeply profound lesson. Look for these messages. Don’t try to memorize facts you think will be on the test.  

Wishing you much joy as you take the journey with our narrator and *The Little Prince!*  

**Assignment:**  

1. EXAMINE each of the following quotes carefully after reading the book.  
2. CHOOSE your top **FIVE** favorite quotes. Choose wisely and with care.  
3. WRITE the page number on which you found the quote.  
4. TYPE a well-developed paragraph for EACH of the five quotes answering the following questions. To be clear, you will submit FIVE separate well-developed paragraphs that answer all of the following questions.  
5. SAVE the document as a Google Doc. You will learn to use Google Classroom the first week and will submit it there once we get you signed in with your new Maria Regina email address.
Example paragraph follows at the END of this document.

EMAIL me if you have questions! (vcassara@mariaregina.org)

Questions to answer in each paragraph!

- Who is speaking or being spoken about?
- What is the situation?
- **Describe and explain** any relevant details surrounding the quote.
- What is the central lesson being conveyed with the quote?
- Who do you know that would benefit from the lesson of the quote and why? (It could be YOU! Or me. Or your parents, employers, friends, etc.) Why? Explain!

QUOTES:

1. “Conceited people never hear anything but praise.”

2. “But if you tame me, we’ll need each other. You’ll be the only boy in the world for me. I’ll be the only fox in the world for you.”

3. “One sees clearly only with the heart. Anything essential is invisible to the eyes”

4. “Grown-ups never understand anything by themselves, and it is tiresome for children to be always and forever explaining things to them.”

5. “Children should always show great forbearance toward grown-up people.”

6. “To forget a friend is sad. Not everyone has a friend. And if I forget him, I may become like the grown-ups who are no longer interested in anything but figures.”

7. “A baobab is something that you will never, never be able to get rid of if you attend to it too late. It spreads over the entire planet. It bores clear through it with its roots…. You must see to it that you pull up regularly all the baobabs, at the very first moment when they can be distinguished from the rose bushes which they resemble so closely in their earliest youth.”
8. “I do not much like to take the tone of a moralist. But the danger of the baobabs is so little understood, and such considerable risks would be run by anyone who might get lost on an asteroid, that for once I am breaking through my reserve. “Children,” I say plainly, watch out for baobabs!”

9. “I ought to have judged by deeds and not by words.”

10. “Well, I must endure the presence of two or three caterpillars if I wish to become acquainted with the butterflies.”

11. “One must require from each one the duty which he can perform,” the king went on.” Accepted authority rests first of all on reason. If you ordered people to go and throw themselves into the sea, they would rise up in revolution. I have the right to require obedience because my orders are reasonable.”

12. “That is the most difficult thing of all. It is much more difficult to judge oneself than to judge others. If you succeed in judging yourself rightly, then you are indeed a man of true wisdom.”

To me, you are still nothing more than a little boy who is just like a hundred thousand other little boys. And I have no need of you. And you, on your part, have no need of me. To you I am nothing more than a fox like a hundred thousand other foxes. But if you tame me, then we shall need each other. To me, you will be unique in all the world. To you, I shall be unique in all the world...
“Grown-ups never understand anything by themselves, and it is tiresome for children to be always and forever explaining things to them.” (page 9)

The narrator explains at the beginning of the novel that before he was a pilot he was an artist. When he was six years of age he saw a picture in a book of a boa constrictor eating an animal. He also read in the book that the boa constrictor must hibernate for six months after eating their prey in order to digest it safely. The narrator was captivated by this new knowledge and decided to draw it in a picture. Drawing Number One was a drawing of a boa constrictor digesting an elephant. When he showed grown-ups the picture they thought it was a hat so he drew Drawing Number Two which was an x-ray view of Drawing Number One. The narrator showed the grown-ups the two drawings for the second time hoping they would understand it better. Unfortunately, the adults advised him to give up drawing and pursue a career in geography, arithmetic, or grammar instead of drawing. On page 9 the narrator says, “Grown-ups never understand anything by themselves, and it is tiresome for children to be always and forever explaining things to them.” This leads the reader to believe that grown-ups always overthink situations and want an explanation to everything. The narrator believes that this is the reason why children are “always and forever explaining things to them.” My parents would benefit from this lesson. Although my parents understand where I am coming from in most situations, there have been times where my parents were being stubborn. One day, my mom and I were practicing riding the bus together for when I have to do it on my own to travel to school. While on the bus,
she was telling me to pay attention to my surroundings. She kept repeating it to me while I already explained to her that I was paying attention. Everytime I tried to talk she would interrupt me and say, “Let me speak.” As a result, we missed the stop we were supposed to get off of and my mother blamed me. I was furious. She blamed for something that was her fault.