English 10
College and Career
Spring Student Enrichment Packet
Prince George’s County Public Schools

READING/ENGLISH LANGUAGE ARTS

Prince George’s County Public Schools
Office of Academic Programs
Department of Curriculum and Instruction
COLLEGE AND CAREER SPRING ENRICHMENT PACKET
GRADE 10

In Preparation for College and Career Readiness

Note to Students: You’ve learned so much in school this year! It is important that you keep your brain active over the Spring Break. In this packet, you will find a calendar of activities to complete during the break.

Parents are encouraged to assist in the following ways:

- Make a plan to complete the activities throughout the Spring Break.
- Families should preview the calendar together.
- Schedule times that fit your family’s schedule to complete the assignments and write the proposed times on the calendar dates also. (Of course, these times may need adjustment, but having a plan is the first step to success.)
- Provide a quiet space and time for your child to complete the activities.
- Encourage the daily reading for a minimum of 30 minutes of a self-selected book. Students should read for a minimum of four of the five days of the Spring Break.

Thank you for helping your child succeed.
Read daily for at least 30 minutes. It is suggested that you use this extended block of time to read a novel or nonfiction book.

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College and Career Readiness Tasks
Directions: Carefully read the poem “Sonnet XLIII” by William Shakespeare and answer the questions that follow.

SONNET 43

When most I wink, then do mine eyes best see,
For all the day they view things unrespected;
But when I sleep, in dreams they look on thee,
And darkly bright are bright in dark directed;
Then thou, whose shadow shadows doth make bright,
How would thy shadow's form form happy show
To the clear day with thy much clearer light,
When to unseeing eyes thy shade shines so?
How would, I say, mine eyes be blessed made
By looking on thee in the living day,
When in dead night thy fair imperfect shade
Through heavy sleep on sightless eyes doth stay?
All days are nights to see till I see thee,
And nights bright days when dreams do show thee me.
Directions: Use text evidence and make inferences to answer the following questions using complete sentences.

1. How would you characterize the age of the speaker in the poem?

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2. To what does the speaker compare old age?

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3. What metaphor leads to a solemn conclusion?

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4. What is the speaker telling the listener to do and where in the poem does this occur?

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5. How does this command relate to the theme of the poem?

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Directions: Carefully read the poem “Song” by John Donne and answer the questions that follow.

“Song”

Go and catch a falling star,  
   Get with child a mandrake root,  
Tell me where all past years are,  
   Or who cleft the devil's foot,  
Teach me to hear mermaids singing,  
   Or to keep off envy's stinging,  
   And find  
   What wind  
Serves to advance an honest mind.  

If thou be'st born to strange sights,  
   Things invisible to see,  
Ride ten thousand days and nights,  
   Till age snow white hairs on thee,  
Thou, when thou return'st, wilt tell me,  
All strange wonders that befell thee,  
   And swear,  
   No where  
Lives a woman true, and fair.  

If thou find'st one, let me know,  
   Such a pilgrimage were sweet;  
Yet do not, I would not go,  
   Though at next door we might meet;  
Though she were true, when you met her,  
And last, till you write your letter,  
   Yet she  
   Will be  
False, ere I come, to two, or three.
Directions: Use text evidence and make inferences to answer the following questions using complete sentences.

6. What is the tone of the poem?

7. What tasks does the speaker challenge the listener to perform?

8. Why might Donne have titled this “Song” and suggested it be sung to music?

9. What theme or message is the speaker expressing?

10. What evidence in the poem supports your answer to question four?
11. Read the following writing prompt and write a five-paragraph essay to respond.

Now that you are near the end of your second year in high school, it is important to set goals for your future. Write an essay in 1st person describing what you plan to be doing in five years. You may want to consider what your educational life, your family life, and your career aspirations will be.
Grammar Exercises

Directions: Using a computer or mobile device, visit the following website:


On the site there are three grammar practice tests, Basic, Intermediate, and Advanced. Complete two of the three activities.