English 12
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
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 *Ode on a Grecian Urn* by John Keats and answer the questions that follow.

“Ode on a Grecian Urn”

THOU still unravish'd bride of quietness,
Thou foster-child of Silence and slow Time,
Sylvan historian, who canst thus express
A flowery tale more sweetly than our rhyme:
What leaf-fringed legend haunts about thy shape  
Of deities or mortals, or of both,
In Tempe or the dales of Arcady?  
What men or gods are these? What maidens loth?
What mad pursuit? What struggle to escape?
What pipes and timbrels? What wild ecstasy?

Heard melodies are sweet, but those unheard  
Are sweeter; therefore, ye soft pipes, play on;
Not to the sensual ear, but, more endear'd,  
Pipe to the spirit ditties of no tone:
Fair youth, beneath the trees, thou canst not leave  
Thy song, nor ever can those trees be bare;
Bold Lover, never, never canst thou kiss,  
Though winning near the goal—yet, do not grieve;
Though winning near the goal—yet, do not grieve;
She cannot fade, though thou hast not thy bliss,
For ever wilt thou love, and she be fair!

Ah, happy, happy boughs! that cannot shed
Your leaves, nor ever bid the Spring adieu;
And, happy melodist, unwearièd,
For ever piping songs for ever new;
More happy love! more happy, happy love!
For ever warm and still to be enjoy'd,
For ever panting, and for ever young;
All breathing human passion far above,
That leaves a heart high-sorrowful and cloy'd,
A burning forehead, and a parching tongue.  

Who are these coming to the sacrifice?
To what green altar, O mysterious priest,
Lead'st thou that heifer lowing at the skies,
And all her silken flanks with garlands drest?
What little town by river or sea-shore,
Or mountain-built with peaceful citadel,
Is emptied of its folk, this pious morn?
And, little town, thy streets for evermore
Will silent be; and not a soul, to tell
Why thou art desolate, can e'er return.  

O Attic shape! fair attitude! with brede
Of marble men and maidens overwrought,
With forest branches and the trodden weed;
Thou, silent form! dost tease us out of thought
As doth eternity: Cold Pastoral!
When old age shall this generation waste,
Thou shalt remain, in midst of other woe
Than ours, a friend to man, to whom thou say'st,
'Beauty is truth, truth beauty,—that is all
Ye know on earth, and all ye need to know.'
Directions: Use text evidence and make inferences to answer the following questions using complete sentences.

1. What is the object that Keats describes in his poem?

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2. What images does the speaker use to describe the urn in lines 1-30?

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3. Why does the poet repeat the words “for ever” several times in lines 22-30?

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4. What images does the speaker describe in lines 31-40?

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5. Do you think that all of these images appear on the urn or might they exist only in the speaker’s imagination? Explain your thoughts.

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6. How might the poet feel about the difference between the figures on the urn and mortal people?

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Vocabulary

Directions: Reread the poem. Define the following words based on how they are used in the sentence. On the second line, use a dictionary to find its definition of the word and write it.

1. sylvan –
2. deities –
3. timbrels –
4. lowing –
5. citadel –
Directions: Read the following writing prompt and write a five-paragraph essay to respond.

Now that you are near the end of your senior year, 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 are.
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.