Gifted Junior Summer Reading Assignment

Your summer reading assignment is to read 3 the following 4 novels and complete ONE of the assignment project. Please be prepared to turn in the assignment on the second day of class. I will be looking at these projects to learn about you as a student. What are your strengths? What are your personal interests? We will be writing a synthesis essay during the first two weeks of class where you bring in elements from all of the books. Consider what all of these books have in common? Hint: The road narrative structure.

Required Summer Reading

- *Adventures of Huckleberry Finn* by Mark Twain
- *Their Eyes Were Watching God* by Zora Neale Hurston
- *Into the Wild* by Jon Krakauer  OR  *The Road* by Cormac McCarthy

Please select ONE of the following Projects to show off your talents (40 project points)

- Annotate one book as you read. You should have at least one comment every couple of pages. Have a conversation with the text. Talk back to it. Ask questions (essential to active reading). Comment on the actions or development of a character. Does the character change? Why? How? The result? Comment on lines / quotations you think are especially significant, powerful, or meaningful. Express agreement or disagreement. Summarize key events. Make predictions. Connect ideas to each other or to other texts. Note if you experience an epiphany. Note anything you would like to discuss in class or do not understand. Note how the author uses language.

- Consider the essential question that one novel raises. In a 2 page, double-spaced essay that does not include a summary, discuss the ways in which the characters, situations, or events in the novel deal with that question. Please end with you own feelings about the issue.

- Create a well-planned, careful visual for one novel. Your creative work should show insight and considerable effort.

- Write a creative work that either takes on one novel from a different perspective OR takes on the voice of a character and write about a new situation. It may be a poem, short story, or song. Your writing should show considerable effort.