Form VII American Literature Summer Reading

**Read and annotate the novel *Okla Hannali* by R. A. Lafferty**

This paperback is available on Amazon or Barnes & Noble for less than $20, or you can purchase from the original publisher, the University of Oklahoma Press, for about $22; you also might find a good used copy at a local bookstore.

The free audiobook may prove beneficial as you read along:

<https://www.hoopladigital.com/title/14794438> #hoopladigital

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This novel presents a mythical perspective on the historical experiences of the Choctaw Nation. After reading the entire novel, please choose ONE of the three options below to submit for your first project grade. **Focus on effort, neatness, and originality (i.e., creativity!)**

1. **Create a six-page (card stock) booklet** to exhibit **SIX of your own illustrations, paintings, drawings, sketches, photographs** that reflect six different important events or themes in this novel. For example, draw a Picassoesque image of a fox to represent the unusual fox hunt scene.
* DO NOT USE AI GENERATED IMAGES.
* Neatly and professionally mount each artwork on its own page. Include the short excerpt (with page number) that inspired each of your symbolic or artistic choices.
* Decorate the front cover of your booklet and put your name on the back cover. Be prepared to explain each representation to the class.
* The size of the booklet should not exceed tabloid size (11 x 17 inches) and should be at least 5 x 8 inches. Booklets will be collected on the first day of class.
1. **Create a ten-slide Power Point presentation** to exhibit **ten museum pieces** (painting, sculpture, or textile) that correspond to **ten** **key scenes** from the novel.
* The museum art does not need to be created by an American artist.
* You can use the librarian’s shared document for museum sites on our TEAMS page but be careful to avoid the first or most obvious pieces; **art duplicates get penalized** for lack of originality.
* Each slide should **include the excerpt** (with page number) that inspired your art choice.
* **Give appropriate credit** to the artists and museums selected (use MLA format).
* Upload file to TEAMS.
1. **Create a timeline** that marks significant aspects of Hannali’s journey through the 19th century. You must add key **political, economic, and cultural details**. For example, in 1850, when the Choctaws were settling into their new territory and separating into three districts (novel), Nathaniel Hawthorne was publishing *The Scarlet Letter* (cultural); the California gold rush was in process (economic); the Compromise of 1850 was passed (political).
* Provide at least **one event in each category for each decade** (1800 – 1900) paired with at least eight events from the novel.
* Make sure you have marked what is going on in the novel on the upper scale of the timeline (use page numbers) and keep historical events on the lower scale.
* Try to summarize the historical event you have discovered and consider adding a picture or photograph to keep it interesting.
* Figure out a neat and somewhat linear method to display your timeline (perhaps a trifold of 8.5 x 11 standard pages or a rolled scroll). Submit a hard copy.

**These projects are due the first day of English class.** PowerPoint files should be uploaded to our class TEAMS page (make sure they are shared properly.) Booklets and timelines will be collected on the first day of class. Bring your annotated copy of the novel the first day of class. We will be pairing analysis of *Okla Hannali* with excerpts from other historical works.

Our American Literature TEAMS page can be accessed through your Cistercian account. The link to this page has also been sent to your email and is posted under the Files Tab on our Teams page.

[Form VII American Literature 2025-26 | General | Microsoft Teams](https://teams.microsoft.com/l/team/19%3AkpD8wEnN9-auY28ZFNo4YRbAFSgH-zGd1chb6jGH8I41%40thread.tacv2/conversations?groupId=7265dc3c-ab17-4dd0-b841-2638e7180f54&tenantId=5a155c4b-ef1f-45e3-944d-c5fe0285ae4f)

**Enjoy reading and creating! I look forward to seeing you in August.**