English 11

**Lord of the Flies**

**Research Essay**

For this assignment, you will compose a 500-750 word (2-3 pages) literary research essay on the novel *Lord of the Flies*, by William Golding. In addition to the novel, you will be expected to have a *minimum* of two outside sources cited within your essay, and identified in a Works Cited at the end of your essay. All expectations for formal literary essays apply. Please choose from **ONE** of the following topics:

1. Discuss *when*, *how*, and *why* the boys on the island experience a **“loss of innocence”**.
2. Discuss *how* **symbolism** is used in the novel (i.e. to what larger purpose/theme do the various symbols contribute?).
3. Discuss *how* the theme of **civilization vs. savagery** (order vs. chaos) is presented in the novel.
4. Discuss *how* the novel could be read as a **political allegory**, with specific references to democratic and totalitarian political systems.

You will be given two classes to research your topic, but it is expected that you will also conduct research on your own time. It is **VERY IMPORANT** that any and all research is cited correctly (i.) within your essay, and (ii) is included in your Works Cited. *Any* un-cited ideas will constitute **plagiarism**, and will result in a mark of zero on your essay. If you’re not sure, ask *before* you hand in your essay.

**Marking**

**Overall** (depth of analysis, clarity and style of expression, adequate support for ideas) = /18

**Quotes** (minimum three from the novel, and minimum one from each additional source, correctly integrated) =

**Mechanics** (no CS, RO, SF, or usage errors) = /6

**Total** = 30