

2020-21 Honors English 9 Summer Assignment 2

1. Read *Black Ships Before Troy (The Iliad)* by Rosemary Sutcliff.
2. **Type** your answers to the five discussion questions below. Use your best writing skills. Please answer each question with complete sentences. Give as much information as you can for each question, and use the text to solidify your points. Please double space, use Times New Roman, and 12' font.
3. Begin your responses by typing your name and the name of this course (9th Grade Honors English) at the top left margin (not in the header). Answer questions in the order listed, and put a number beside each discussion response.
4. Submit your typed answer no later than **July 24, 2020**. You may submit by one of three methods:
 - Send answers in a Google docs or a Word email attachment to bspurgeon@bessemeracademy.com with the subject line of *Iliad*.
 - Bring the assignment in a sealed envelope to the Bessemer Academy Office BEFORE the deadline.
 - Send the assignment by US mail to Bob Spurgeon, Bessemer Academy, 1705 4th Ave. S.W., Bessemer, AL 35022.

Questions for Discussion

1. Discuss the roles of the gods. How do they interact with each other and with the mortals? Discuss some of the major gods and which side they support in the war.
2. Compare and contrast Priam and Agamemnon. Discuss their leadership abilities, their feelings about their families, and their feelings towards their countrymen.
3. Discuss the importance of burial throughout the story. Why are fallen soldiers' bodies so important to their comrades?
4. Discuss the use of armor throughout the story. What does it seem to represent, and how does Homer portray it?
5. In your opinion, who is the protagonist of the story and why? If this character is the protagonist, then who is the antagonist or antagonists?