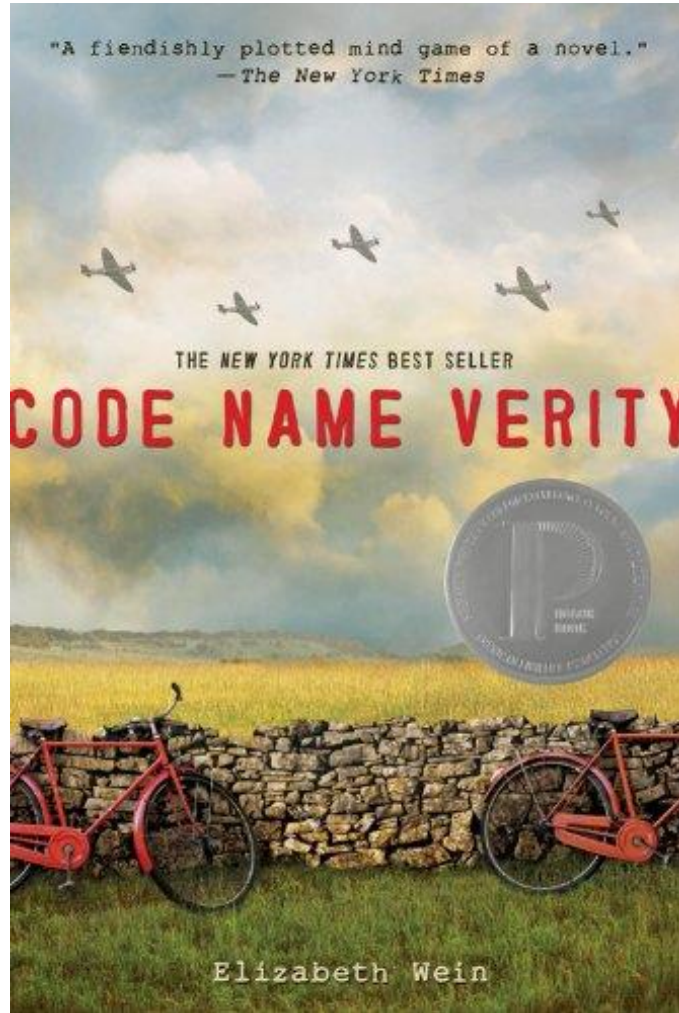


In the Name of Allah, the Most Beneficial, The Most Merciful

# NINTH GRADE



# SUMMER ASSIGNMENT

2017

Asalamu alaykum Incoming Freshmen and Parents,

I am pleased to inform you that your child will be reading *Code Name Verity* by Elizabeth Wein and completing a short assignment for the summer. We have an exam a week after school starts over this book inshallah. We will also discuss this book and use it as a medium to discuss key literary concepts as well as historical information. Below is a short synopsis of this riveting read:

“Oct. 11th, 1943-A British spy plane crashes in Nazi-occupied France. Its pilot and passenger are best friends. One of the girls has a chance at survival. The other has lost the game before it's barely begun. When "Verity" is arrested by the Gestapo, she's sure she doesn't stand a chance. As a secret agent captured in enemy territory, she's living a spy's worst nightmare. Her Nazi interrogators give her a simple choice: reveal her mission or face a grisly execution. As she intricately weaves her confession, Verity uncovers her past, how she became friends with the pilot Maddie, and why she left Maddie in the wrecked fuselage of their plane. On each new scrap of paper, Verity battles for her life, confronting her views on courage, failure and her desperate hope to make it home. But will trading her secrets be enough to save her from the enemy?

A Michael L. Printz Award Honor book that was called "a fiendishly-plotted mind game of a novel" in *The New York Times*, *Code Name Verity* is a visceral read of danger, resolve, and survival that shows just how far true friends will go to save each other" (Amazon)

#### Tentative Schedule:

YOU ARE READING ABOUT 11 PAGES/ DAY. If you do that, you can finish the entire book in 30 days. If you want to get it done faster, then read more pages. The important thing is to read and take the time to underline and understand what you are reading, otherwise it will ineffective. If you have any questions, be sure to email me at [j.elsabbagh@patulsa.org](mailto:j.elsabbagh@patulsa.org)

#### Assignment

Students are strongly encouraged to read and highlight/underline parts of the book that:

- a. Interested you, something new or interesting you did not know before
- b. Confused you, something you felt was important but unsure why or simply confusing details

Also, be sure to:

- a. LOOK UP WORDS YOU DO NOT KNOW. Write the definition or synonym next to the word
- b. Highlight/underline and briefly DESCRIBE AND GIVE “SO WHAT” for literary devices such as: similes, metaphors, imagery (sensory details such as how Verity describes her living quarters or those around her- she has a sense of humor!), motifs, and direct/indirect characterization. REFER TO HANDOUT FOR EXPLANATION

Reading Questions

Be sure to answer them to better prepare for the test...THESE MAY BE TAKEN UP FOR A GRADE (hint hint):

1. Why is SS-Hauptsturmführer von Linden keeping “Verity” alive and imprisoned at the Château de Bordeaux? Why do you think he is willing to give her so much time to write her confession?
2. According to William Shakespeare (The Tempest), “misery acquaints a man with strange bedfellows.” Metaphorically speaking, how is this quote relevant to the friendship between Julie (“Verity”) and Maddie?
3. Throughout the book, the author makes a number of allusions and refers to a good many poets and authors. What are some of the most significant allusions? How do you think these literary and historical influences help deepen your understanding of the characters?
4. How well do we really get to know Julie (“Verity”)? What of her confession is “true”? She ends her confession by repeating and repeating “I have told the truth.” What truths has she shared?
5. What are your impressions of Anna Engel? Is she a sympathetic character? Why or why not?
6. Though *Code Name Verity* takes place during World War II, in what ways is it relevant today, with regard to conflict and war? Has this novel changed the way you regard human suffering or changed the way you define courage? How?

I look forward to see you in August inshallah ☺ .

HAVE FUN!

Wa alaykum was salam,

Teacher Jinan

## MOTIFS EXPLAINED

A **motif** is an object or idea that **repeats** itself throughout a literary work. In a literary work, a **motif** can be seen as an image, sound, action or other figures that have a **symbolic significance** and contributes toward the **development of theme**.

- **Power of Words** - Words or phrases that can cause great harm and are emphasized in a way that makes the reader feel that those words are important and moving. EX: *Key information can either thwart an attack or help win a battle. It can also affect how the TRUTH is understood.*
- **Survivor's Guilt** - a deep feeling of guilt often experienced by those who have survived some catastrophe that took the lives of many others; derives in part from a feeling that they did not do enough to save the others who perished and in part from feelings of being unworthy relative to those who died; "survivor guilt was first noted in those who survived the Holocaust". *Think of who survives in war and what happens to those left behind.*
- **Human Spirit** — This refers to positive events and feelings during times of tragedy and great despair. Many times especially in war, the human spirit prevails in weddings, birthdays, holidays, and other celebratory times. *Ex: What are the good times that Verity recalls in her journal.*
- **Dehumanization**- The act of demeaning a person. Animalize/brutalize a group of people in order to persecute and subjugate them. *EX: Being a prisoner of war, TORTURE!*
- **Cowardice**- weakness, lack of bravery. In literature this could mean a character choosing not to speak up if he or she knows society may retaliate.
- **Friendship**- Think about the positive and negative aspects. How it affects the characters' decisions. Think of the characteristics of a long term friendship. Verity and Maddie are especially important, but pay attention to others.

**\*\*ANNOTATIONS HAVE TWO PURPOSES\*\*:**

1. Read Actively and interact with the text
2. Note-taking to be an easy reference in class

## CHARACTERIZATION EXPLAINED

Direct Characterization- **TELLS** you what the character's personality is like.

Ex: “[Maddie] has an excellence sense of direction” (8).

Indirect Characterization- **SHOWS** you things that reveal the character's personality. Use **STEAL** to find this out. The STEAL chart is explained below. Pay close attention to Maddie and Verity as well as the other characters in the novel (including the major antagonists). How does Wein portray them? What is your reaction to the events, actions, etc...?

**Speech** : What does the character say? How does the character speak? **Thoughts**: What is revealed through the character's private thoughts and feelings?

**Effect on others toward the character**: What is revealed through the character's effect on other people? How do other characters feel or behave in reaction to the character?

**Actions**: What does the character do? How does the character behave?

**Looks**: What does the character look like? How does the character dress?

## IMAGERY EXPLAINED

Think about the 5 senses and how they affect your understanding of the plot, characters, setting, and time period. SIGHT, SMELL, SOUND, TOUCH, TASTE.

Ex: “Every now and then, around a corner or at the crest of a hump in the hill, you can see the bare green chain of the Pennines stretching serenely to the west, to the factory chimneys of south Manchester scrawling the blue north sky with black smoke” (9).

*Explanation*- the setting is very serene and carefree. It symbolizes a carefree time before the war came to the region and left it in shambles.

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