

## TIMED WRITING FOR SUMMER READING ASSIGNMENT

From El Patron maintaining a dominant drug empire to segregationists resisting school integration, both summer reading texts explore the idea of power and its relationship to society.

In a clear, well-reasoned essay, explain how one of those authors (Farmer OR Beals) develops her claim about the relationship between power and society.

Questions to consider:

- How do those in power attempt to preserve their power? What obstacles and challenges do they face in that attempt?
- What obstacles are faced by those who attempt to challenge existing power structures? What personality traits are most important for taking on such a challenge?
- Which events in the texts best illustrate the authors' perspectives on power dynamics?
- What message is the author trying to convey about the nature of power?

You will be writing this essay in class on Friday, August 16. You **may** use your copy of the summer reading novel, any notes you have compiled, and this handout. You **may not** write your essay ahead of time.

More specifically, during the assessment you **may** use the following:

- the book
- handwritten notes
- an outline of the **basic** points you would like to make (bullet points of general points of discussion), for example:
  - Intro and Thesis: control of knowledge as key deceptive strategy
  - Background
    - Animals initially equal, but pigs take control
    - Pigs become educated
  - How pigs use knowledge
    - Change commandments
    - Change maxim
    - Do human-like things (sleep in bed, etc.)
  - Boxer's demise and pigs' role in it
  - Conclusion: knowledge in the wrong hands can have far-reaching, negative consequences

During the assessment you **may not** use the following:

- a prewritten essay (i.e., simply transferring information from one page to another)
- a detailed outline that simply requires you to add some words and "polish"