

Upcoming Jr. IB Physics Students – Summer 2017

The upcoming IB Physics summer assignment for this year is to read $E=mc^2$: A Biography of the World's Most Famous Equation by David Bodanis. This book is written for those with little or no physics background but introduces many important concepts we will explore during your Jr. and Sr. years of physics and their significance in the development of history.

Parts 1-4 are required reading as well as Ch. 14 “The Fires of the Sun”. The rest of Part 5 as well as the Epilogue and Appendix are optional.

Throughout your reading write down points that stand out to you as well as questions you have about what is being discussed. Bodanis doesn't go into all the intricacies of the physics involved so if you are interested or have questions about those parts, please share that in your reflection.

Your writing assignment will have two parts. The first part will consist of the points you wrote down as well as questions and topics discussed that interested you. This part should be no shorter than 750 words but no longer than 1250.

In the second part, you will find at least two resources discussing either a topic from the book or one of the scientists in the book. Pick a topic or scientist connected with one of the questions or interests you had in the first part of your writing. These resources can be from online or another media but please make sure to ensure its credibility. This section can be as short as 500 words but no more than 1250. You are free to use whatever citation style you prefer but please mark your resources with in-text citation and write in your own words. A really good resource for citations help is <https://owl.english.purdue.edu/owl/resource/560/01/>.

You will turn this paper in through turnitin.com. Go to turnitin.com and enroll by entering in the class ID 15310491 and enrollment password student123. Make sure to use your full legal name when you sign up. This assignment is due by **Monday the 7th of August at 10 PM**.

Please note this is the Monday before you get back to school. If you turn the assignment in past that time, submit the assignment in the “Summer Assignment – Late” folder in turnitin.com. Assignments completed late will receive a maximum of $\frac{3}{4}$ credit then a 10% per day reduction after that time down to half credit. Attached is a copy of the rubric I will use to grade the assignment. This will be worth a test grade as you start your Jr. year. You don't have to buy the book. It is one of the St. John's County approved student books so if you want to borrow it from the library or media center that will be fine. Just make sure you have completed the assignment by the 7th.

I look forward to working with you in the fall. If you have any questions or concerns about choosing physics for next year please stop by my room before the end of the year. Make sure you are strong in math... a lot of critical and analytical thinking skills needed in math are needed to be successful in physics. Have a great summer break.

Sincerely,

Mr. Augenstein