

Quest Forward High School
2026 - 2027
11th Grade Summer Reading Assignment

Summer reading is designed to keep your mind active, improve your literacy skills, and prepare you for the upcoming school year. This assignment ensures you are ready to participate in class discussions, projects, and assessments from the first day of school.

Failure to read the assigned book and submit this corresponding packet by the deadline of **Friday, August 14th, 2026** will result in a deduction of points towards the assignment grade.

Learning Objective: Students will read *Beloved* by Toni Morrison and will analyze how Sethe's experiences in *Beloved* are shaped by faith, fear, and/or freedom, using textual evidence to explore Morrison's commentary on broader social and moral issues.

Success Criteria:

- Essay length: 2-3 full pages double-spaced.
- Formatting: Double-spaced, Times New Roman, 12pt font.
- Evidence: Include at least three specific quotes from the text.
- Analysis: Clear connection between character choices and social commentary.

The Essay Prompt

Sethe's journey in *Beloved* is defined by a complex struggle for autonomy. In a well-structured essay, analyze how Sethe's experiences are shaped by the themes of faith, fear, and/or freedom. You must use at least **3 specific quotes or moments** from the novel (using proper MLA format) to argue:

1. How these internal forces drive her actions
2. Explore what Morrison is communicating about broader moral issues, such as the psychological legacy of slavery or the weight of motherhood.

Use the frame below to outline your primary argument before beginning your essay.

Claim (Theme)	Evidence (Textual Support)	Reasoning (Commentary)