

Summer Reading Assignment: 12 Honors

The Kite Runner, by Khaled Hosseini

- **Directions:** Complete the following study guide and **type** your responses. Bring a hard copy of the completed study guide the first day of class for submission. All responses will be submitted to Turnitin.com during the first week of school. This is a web site that checks for plagiarism. This means that **you must have an electronic copy** of your work.

I. Character: identify each of the following characters and explain his or her role in the book in two or three complete sentences.

- A. Amir –
- B. Hassan –
- C. Baba –
- D. Ali –
- E. Sohrab –
- F. Soraya –
- G. Rahim Khan –
- H. Assef –

II. Themes: Discuss the significance of each of the themes listed below in two or three complete sentences.

- A. Coming of Age
- B. Prejudice
- C. Hidden Guilt
- D. Redemption
- E. Family Relationships

III. Analysis: Select **5** of the following and write a fully developed paragraph for each.

- A. Discuss how the culture of Afghanistan encourages various forms of discrimination.
- B. The two boys, Amir and Hassan, lead parallel lives but have very different personalities. Discuss how their similarities and differences help define their relationship.
- C. Consider the narrative structure of the novel, which begins in the present, moves to the past, and eventually works back to the present. Discuss why this method of telling the story is important to understanding the moral development of the main character.
- D. Identify and discuss several of Amir's sins. Evaluate the degree to which he is able to overcome his sins.
- E. Explain the thematic significance of the quote from Rahim Khan, "There is a way to be good again." (pg. 2).
- F. Discuss the symbolic nature of the boys (Amir and Hassan) being fed as babies from the same breast.
- G. Discuss the significance of the climatic scene when Amir meets Assef, who is now a Talib.