

## Junior English Summer Assignment

*The Road* is a type of literature called apocalyptic literature. This is literature that deals with a world that exists after some event has destroyed the fabric of civilization. It can be right after the destructive event or centuries later. The survivors are picking up the pieces.

In a single WORD Document, you will place your answers to the following set of directions. This word document will be submitted to your English teacher on the first day of school.

1. **Directions:** Write a 150 word response to this question: Which major character do you find the most interesting and why?
  - a. Here is a list of Major Characters:
    - i. The Man
    - ii. The Son
    - iii. The Woman
    - iv. The Gangmember
    - v. Ely
    - vi. The Thief
    - vii. The “Good Guy” Man
  
2. **Directions:** Write a 100 word response to this question: Which minor character do you find the most interesting and why?
  - a. Here is a list of Minor Characters:
    - i. The Burnt Man
    - ii. The Archer
    - iii. The Little Boy
    - iv. The “Good Guy” Woman
    - v. Uncle
    - vi. Woman with the Archer

When something is used as a symbol it signifies ideas and qualities that are different from their literal sense. Generally, it is an **object** representing another, to give an entirely different meaning that is much deeper and more significant. Sometimes, however, an **action**, an **event**, or a **word** spoken by someone may have a symbolic value.

- E.g. “Smile” is a symbol of friendship.
- E.g. Similarly, the action of someone smiling at you may stand as a symbol of the feeling of affection which that person has for you.

Symbols in *The Road* by Cormac McCarthy

1. The Road
2. The Flarepistol
3. “Carrying the Fire”

**Theme:** A theme is a concept or idea that an author explores in a literary work.

**Directions:** Use this table to collect your evidence. Copy and paste it into your WORD document

Theme: _____	
Plot Point:	
Plot Point:	
Symbol:	
Quote:	
Quote:	
Quote:	

**Read this information to discover what theme you must analyze.**

1. For those individuals with a last name beginning with **A-E**, you must collect 6 details from *The Road* (such as specific plot points, symbols, or quotes) that the author uses to explore the theme of **Death and Violence**.
2. For those individuals with a last name beginning with **F-J**, you must collect 6 details from *The Road* (such as specific plot points, symbols, or quotes) that the author uses to explore the theme of **Familial Love**.
3. For those individuals with a last name beginning with **K-O**, you must collect 6 details from *The Road* (such as specific plot points, symbols, or quotes) that the author uses to explore the theme of **Survival and Perseverance**.
4. For those individuals with a last name beginning with **P-T**, you must collect 6 details from *The Road* (such as specific plot points, symbols, or quotes) that the author uses to explore the theme of **Faith, Trust, and Doubt**.
5. For those individuals with a last name beginning with **U-Z**, you must collect 6 details from *The Road* (such as specific plot points, symbols, or quotes) that the author uses to explore the theme of **Dreams and Memory**.