



TEXT: J.R.R. Tolkien's [*The Hobbit*](#) ➡

DIRECTIONS: Students who are taking English IV, whether it is Term 1 or Term 2, will read Tolkien's novel *The Hobbit* and complete a short, written reflection that responds to the following prompt:

In the action of *The Hobbit*, Bilbo changes from being a soft and timid hobbit to being a character of wisdom and courage. Several key events and incidents go towards changing and developing him. Identify at least three of these "turning points" and explore each one. For each "turning point," explain what the turning point was and how it changed Bilbo in some way, or how it marked a milestone in Bilbo's development.

Students should prepare a brief 1-2 page typed essay response using examples and quotes from the book where appropriate to develop their response. Be sure to format your paper according to [MLA guidelines](#) ➡ and edit your work using Grammarly before submitting the polished draft to Canvas.

ACADEMIC HONESTY & INTEGRITY STATEMENT: Students are to prepare their own essay based on their understanding of the reading. The use of online resources such as Spark Notes, Shmoop, and any AI tools (like ChatGPT, but not limited to ChatGPT) is completely prohibited. The use of unauthorized online aids will result in a zero on this assignment with no chance to resubmit and a documented academic integrity violation.

DUE DATE: Thursday, September 18, 2025 by 11:59 pm

POINT VALUE: 40 points (see attached rubric)

If you have any questions, please contact Mrs. Gadaleta (gadaleta@sjvhs.org).

Criteria	Ratings				Pts
Content & Development	15 to >13.5 pts Excellent Content is comprehensive, accurate, and persuasive. Major points are clearly stated and well supported. Response is interesting, thought-provoking, and addresses all components of the assignment. Content and purpose of the writing is clear.	13.5 to >12.0 pts Good Content is accurate and persuasive. Major points are stated. The response is adequate and addresses the assignment. The content and purpose of the writing is clear.	12 to >10.5 pts Fair Content is not comprehensive and/or persuasive. Major points are addressed but not well supported. The response is inadequate or does not address the assignment. Content is inconsistent with regards to purpose or clarity of thought.	10.5 to >0 pts Poor Content is incomplete. Major points are not clear and/or persuasive. The response does not address the assignment.	15 pts
Organization	10 to >9.0 pts Excellent Structure of the paper is clear and easy to follow. Paragraph transitions are logical and maintain the flow of thought throughout the paper. Conclusion is logical and ties the paper together.	9 to >8.0 pts Good Structure is mostly clear and easy to follow. Paragraph transitions are present. Conclusion is logical.	8 to >7.0 pts Fair Structure of the paper is not easy to follow. Paragraph transitions need improvement. Conclusion does not flow from the body of the paper or is missing.	7 to >0 pts Poor Organization and structure detract from the message of the writer. Paragraphs are disjointed and lack transition of thoughts.	10 pts
Grammar and Mechanics	10 to >9.0 pts Excellent Rules of grammar, usage, and punctuation are followed. Spelling is correct. Language is clear and precise. Sentences display varied structure.	9 to >8.0 pts Good Rules of grammar, usage, and punctuation are followed with minor errors. Spelling is correct.	8 to >7.0 pts Fair Paper contains some grammatical, punctuation, and spelling errors. Language lacks clarity or includes the use of some jargon or conversational tone.	7 to >0 pts Poor Paper contains numerous grammatical, punctuation, and spelling errors. Language uses jargon or conversational tone.	10 pts
MLA Formatting	5 to >4.5 pts Excellent Paper follows MLA guidelines. Paper is the appropriate length as described for the assignment. Format enhances the readability of the paper.	4.5 to >4.0 pts Good Paper follows most MLA guidelines. Paper is the appropriate length as described for the assignment.	4 to >3.5 pts Fair Paper follows some guidelines. Paper is over/under designated length as described in the assignment instructions.	3.5 to >0 pts Poor Paper lacks many elements of correct formatting. Paper is inadequate/excessive in length. Formatting detracts from readability (not double spaced, illegible font, etc.)	5 pts