



Hello 9<sup>th</sup> Grade Student,

As your teachers, we welcome you to St. Joseph Catholic Academy's fine tradition of excellence.

This year, you will encounter a number of adventurous learning experiences; you will have the opportunity to enrich your vocabulary, improve writing and grammar skills, and explore various works and genres of literature from all over. In English Survey, we will survey the land of literature!

**To prepare for our year together, your first requirement is to begin your summer assignments. All reading is to be done during the summer. All assignments are expected to be complete and ready to turn in on the 1<sup>st</sup> day of class.**

**Summer Reading Novel:**

*The Five People You Meet in Heaven* by Mitch Albom (summer reading)

- During the first week of school, students will need a version of the summer novel readily available, whether it is print or digital.
  - If a student would like to purchase and use their own text(s), they are more than welcome. However, renting from the library is completely acceptable!

Sincerely,

SJCA English Department



*The Five People You Meet in Heaven* by Mitch Albom

These 17 questions will be jumping off points for assignments and discussions upon our return in August; they are due the first day back. There will be a test over the novel during the second week (after some review). Answer the following questions on paper (in a notebook or on loose-leaf, not laptop); be sure to answer all questions, even the ones inside of each number. You do not have to rewrite each question; simply label your answers.

1. Describe the amusement park that Eddie works at. Explain how it is similar or different from amusement parks that you have been to.
2. Why doesn't Eddie like teenagers? Who does he like? Why?
3. What is the first chapter titled? After finishing it, why start with this?
4. How did Eddie end up dying?
5. In "The Arrival" chapter, what is different about Eddie? Where is he? What are some things that are different about this place?
6. Describe the first person who Eddie meets in Heaven. What are some things that this man explains to Eddie?
7. What does this man say about strangers?
8. From "The Second Person...", list some things that Eddie says he learned in war.
9. How did Eddie's juggling skill come in handy during the war?
10. What's the weather like when Eddie and Marguerite say their goodbyes on the boardwalk?
11. Who shoots Eddie in the leg? Why? How does this person die?
12. What does Ruby say about anger and hating people?
13. As "The Fourth Person..." starts, how has Eddie changed physically?
14. When and where did Eddie get married?
15. Explain what happened on Eddie's 39<sup>th</sup> birthday.
16. What did the attorney find in the box in Eddie's drawer? Why do you think Eddie saved these things?
17. Who brought Eddie to heaven? Who is this person?