All School Summer Reading 2023

The Menagerie By Chris Kelly

During the summer months, we invite you to read *The Menagerie* By Chris Kelly, a book that warns of the dangers of Artificial Intelligence.

As you are aware, AI is becoming increasingly prevalent in our society due to improving technology, and the novel brings up many issues that the world needs to grapple with in the future with the rise of AI.

As you begin to read the novel, please begin to consider these essential questions:

- Can computers have consciousness?
- Would you trust a computer to make important ethical decisions?
- If most jobs were automated, would the world be better or worse?
- If AI develops far enough, will machines deserve rights too?
- Should companies invest more resources in AI or people with regard to who does the job?
- Is AI a risk to basic human rights?
- Will AI become more intelligent than humans?
- Are there ethical, moral, or privacy issues with AI?
- What is AI, and how does it work?
- How does AI benefit society?

After you read the novel, you will be asked to bring 1-2 news articles to your Humanities and STEAM classes on the first day of school that have given you the opportunity to reflect upon the above essential questions and the novel. You should consider issues about AI from the subject areas of mathematics and science, in particular.

Here is an example of a good article

In your STEAM, Social Sciences, and World Language classes, you will have the opportunity to take part in a graded discussion that will demonstrate your understanding of these topics and your news articles.

In your English class you will work with the novel at your teacher's discretion, so it is important to both read the book and bring in your articles to start the year on the right foot!

AP Language and Composition Assignment

After reading *The Menagerie*, consider the essential questions listed above. Choose one and use it as the main thesis for an essay. Use the novel and your articles as resources to support your claim. Use in text citations as well as a Works Cited page. Try not to just paraphrase the

information. What do you want the reader to learn? What is your position and why should the reader care? What are the implications your claim has on the reader, school, the Tilton School community, and/or the world?

The length depends on how well you develop your claim, cite relevant evidence, and explain why this evidence is relevant to your claim, etc. While I hate to put a number on this, the minimum should be five paragraphs. Do not stress or overly fret about this assignment. Basically, it will give me an idea of where your skills and abilities are in developing an argument. However, it is your first assignment and you will receive a grade. More on that later.

I will be setting up a Google Classroom for the AP Lang summer assignment. Place your completed essay there. The due date for this assignment is Wednesday, September 6, 2023.

If you have any questions, etc., please email me at erenaud@tiltonschool.org.

Thank you and enjoy your summer.