A Day No Pigs Would Die

Welcome to Compositions and Literature. My name is Brendon Keene, and I am excited to work with you this next year, exploring our identities as individuals and as Believers through the lens of the written word.

While this is my third year at BLS, I previously taught for three years at Mount Rainier Lutheran in my hometown of Tacoma, Washington. I earned an English degree from Covenant College in Georgia and studied abroad at the University of Oxford. After college, I served in AmeriCorps, where I discovered a love of teaching. I entered a graduate program at the University of Puget Sound and was blessed with an English position at an amazing school!

I clearly enjoy reading, writing, and working with young people, but I also spend time hiking, sketching, and learning about obscure history. Most of all, you’ll find that I love creative answers, big ideas, and deep thinking about our place as Christians in this world.

As I reflect and prepare for the fall, I would like to thank you for welcoming me into your community. I will be in further contact as we start school, but for now, I would like to get us started with some summer reading. Please look over the assignments below and pace yourself to complete them by the start of the school year. Feel free to contact me at any time with questions or concerns. Thank you again, and may God bless your summer break.

Text

To prepare for Composition and Literature, you will need to read A Day No Pigs Would Die by Robert Peck.

Assignments

In connection with your reading, you will need to complete the following for the first day of school:

Comparison Journal
- as you read, keep track of ways in which you are Robert are similar or different
- include both a recap of the events in the story and your own thoughts about them
- focus on experiences, relationships, and personality
- good examples open up more conversation
  “Robert’s family makes everything he owns, but I go shopping. Why?”
- poor examples lead nowhere else
  “Robert wears blue. I don’t. Just because I like green better.”
- include a matching page number and sentence copied from the book with each entry
- write 5 entries for each chapter (5 sentences for each entry minimum)
- must be typed, size 12 Times New Roman font, with proper spelling / grammar

Upon your return, be prepared for the following additional assessments:

Reflection and Classroom Discussion on Major Themes
- how do you know that someone is a child? how do you know that someone is an adult?
- what experiences help Robert go from being a child at the start of the story to an adult at the end?
- are Robert’s experiences universal (do the same sort of things happen to everyone in life)?

Comprehension Test on the Plot, Characters, and Themes of A Day No Pigs Would Die