

THE SECRET LIFE OF BEES  
Summer Reading Assignment

1. Carefully read this *History.com* webpage about The Civil Rights Act of 1964.  
<https://www.history.com/topics/black-history/civil-rights-act>
2. Within the article above, a link is provided for The Voting Rights Act of 1965. Read the *History.com* webpage concerning this piece of legislation.
3. Write a short response to both #1 and #2, after you have taken notes on your reading.
4. Read the text.
5. Complete each of the following. (Use the attached terms and definitions page to help.)
  - a. Define the term *coming of age* and explain how the novel is a coming of age novel for the protagonist.
  - b. Define the term *allusion* and identify allusions in the text and their relevance to the plot.
  - c. Examine the *setting* of the novel and explain how place and time is integral to Lily's story.
  - d. Discuss the problem of race in the novel and explain some ways that Lily is touched by racism.
  - e. Identify the use of *foreshadowing* in the novel and discuss its purpose.
  - f. Explain how June is a *foil* to August and explain the purpose of a foil to the plot.