The purpose of this Model Worksheet is to show you what the completed worksheet will look like. You are not expected to read these sample texts, but a hyperlink has been provided to will help you better understand the text summary and the context of the quotes.

**Directions:** Complete the following exercise by selecting one text from each of the four categories (Fiction, Nonfiction, Audio/Visual, Poetry) in the Choice Board. If you are enrolling in Honors English in the fall, you must select one of the long works (designated by an asterisk *) from either Fiction or Nonfiction. Level 1 and Level 2 students may select any of the four texts in these two sections.

**Part I--Theme Related Quotes—"Family Struggles"**

In the space provided for each selection, you must:
- identify the title and author
- write a 2-4 sentence summary
- select one direct quote related to the theme of “Family Struggles” (be sure to include the page number or paragraph number for works of fiction and nonfiction, the time for audio/visual texts, and the stanza number for poetry/song lyrics) and
- explain in 2-3 sentences how the quote relates to this theme.

**Fiction**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Title:  &quot;All the Years of Her Life&quot;</th>
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<tr>
<td>Author: Morley Callaghan</td>
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<td>Summary: Alfred Higgins is a teen-age boy who gets caught stealing from the drugstore where he works. The boss threatens to call the cops but calls his mother instead. She arrives and convinces the boss to simply fire him. When Alfred and his mother arrive at home and she scolds him for being immature, he eventually realizes that his bad behavior is having a horribly negative effect on his mother.</td>
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<tr>
<td>Quote: “’Be quiet. Don’t speak to me. You’ve disgraced me again and again,’ she said bitterly” (60).</td>
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This quote relates to “Family Struggles” because: This comment by Mrs. Higgins illustrates her anger at Alfred’s repeated bad behavior. It is clear that her son’s immaturity is taking its toll on her. It is clear from this exchange that a child’s behavior can impact other family members in a negative way.
## Nonfiction

**Title:** "Family Problems Harm Young Children"

**Author:** Rick Nauert, PhD

Summary: This article summarizes the results of a three-year study about family relationships and their effects on the educational experience of the 6-year-old children in the family. Researchers found that unhealthy family relationships can lead to depression and anxiety that negatively impact the children’s first few years of schooling. However, the authors are clear in pointing out that several other factors can cause similar effects in children.

Quote: “The study also finds that children from families marked by high levels of conflict and intrusive parenting increasingly struggle with anxiety and social withdrawal as they navigate their early school years.” (para. 5)

This quote relates to “Family Struggles” because: This quote identifies a direct link between family struggles and children’s early schooling experiences. Parents, teachers and others must be aware of how significantly a child’s experience at home impacts his/her behavior and performance at school.

## Audio/Visual

**Title:** "For parents, happiness is a very high bar"

**Author:** Jennifer Senior

Summary: In this TED Talk, Jennifer Senior describes the struggles of raising a child today. She notes that there are too many books and too much advice on parenting and suggests that parents should focus on developing “decency, a work ethic and love” rather than aiming to raise “happy” children. If we do that, she speculates that the kids will be just fine and so will the parents.

Quote: “Why is it that so many mothers and fathers experience parenthood as a kind of crisis?” (2:19)

This quote relates to “Family Struggles” because: This question posed by Senior illustrates the stress involved in parenting in today’s world. The purpose of her talk is to suggest ways to eliminate this stress so that children and their parents are happier as a result.
**Model English Summer Reading Worksheet**

Name: **Model Student**
Circle Your English Level:  Hon.—Lv. 1—Lv. 2

**Poetry**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Title: &quot;No Time&quot;</th>
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<td>Author: Billy Collins</td>
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Summary: The speaker drives by the cemetery and thinks of his parents who are buried there. He imagines how his father might give him a disapproving look and his mother might respond by telling him to lie back down.

Quote: “I think of him rising up / to give me that look / of knowing disapproval / while my mother calmly tells him to lie back down.” (Stanza 2)

This quote relates to “Family Struggles” because: This excerpt shows that even as an adult, the speaker cares what his parents might think about his actions, and imagines that his father would disapprove, even though he is deceased. He also imagines how his mom would continue to boss around his dad, which reflects the power dynamics of their married relationship. The speaker clearly feels guilty about not being able to spend more time paying respects to his parents.

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**Part II—Quotes of Personal Interest**

In this section you must select a total of 6 additional quotes from your four texts that are interesting to you. These quotes may be all from one text or from any of the four texts you selected in Part I. For each quote you must:

- identify the text title
- write the complete quote and
- explain in 2-3 sentences why the quote is interesting to you.

1. **Source Title:** “All the Years of Her Life”

Quote: “He watched his mother, and he never spoke, but at that moment his youth seemed to be over; he knew all the years of her life by the way her hand trembled as she raised the cup to her lips. It seemed to him that this was the first time he had ever looked upon his mother” (60).

This quote is interesting to me because: This quote is interesting because it represents Alfred growing up and understanding that his behavior affects others besides himself. This observation makes me hopeful that he will stop acting immaturely.
### Model English Summer Reading Worksheet

Name: Model Student  
Circle Your English Level: Hon.—Lv. 1—Lv. 2

2.  
**Source Title:** “Family Problems Harm Young Children”  
**Quote:** “Although the study demonstrates solid evidence of a family-school connection, the authors caution that dysfunctional family relationships are not responsible for all or even most behavior difficulties in school.” (para. 10)  

This quote is interesting to me because: This quote is interesting because it represents an honest assessment of how we must resist the urge to blame one factor something as complicated as child school behavior. We must keep in mind that children are influenced every day by a variety of factors both inside and outside of their home.

3.  
**Source Title:** “For parents, happiness is a very high bar”  
**Quote:** “All I want for my children is to be happy.” (13:13)  

This quote is interesting to me because: This seems like such a simple, achievable goal, but Senior explains so many reasons why it is a difficult goal to achieve. The quote illustrates how frustrating it is to be a good parent. I agree with her viewpoint; parenting is difficult because happiness is a pretty abstract concept.

4.  
**Source Title:** “For parents, happiness is a very high bar”  
**Quote:** “We are now so anxious to protect our kids from the world’s ugliness that we now shield them from “Sesame Street” . . . “there is a warning label on the DVD that reads ‘This content is not suitable for children’.” (14:10)  

This quote is interesting to me because: This quote caught my attention because it seems ridiculous that anyone could object to Sesame Street. It makes me think that our society is way too overprotective of our children. We all need to relax a little bit.

5.  
**Source Title:** “For parents, happiness is a very high bar”  
**Quote:** “I haven’t been alone in the bathroom since October.” (10:45)  

This quote is interesting to me because: This anecdote from a woman friend of Senior’s made me laugh out loud. How can a mom keep her sanity if she can’t even use the bathroom in private? It’s stories like this that might scare people away from having children. Also, it makes me think how lucky some folks are to be from big families who can help each other raise the kids.
6.  
Source Title: “For parents, happiness is a very high bar”  
Quote: “It occurs to me that the Hippocratic Oath is a much more realistic aim than happiness.” (16:00)  

This quote is interesting to me because: This is an interesting observation since the Hippocratic Oath essentially says, “Do no harm.” What sane parent would consider doing harm in the first place? I guess “Do no harm” is an easier concept to imagine than “happiness,” which is pretty abstract.