

Assignment Sheet for *Eaters of the Dead* (alternate title: *The 13th Warrior*)

by Michael Crichton

Over the summer, you will read the above book. Though a popular contemporary novel, it nonetheless contains many important themes that we will explore as we delve into the history of literature in English.

Read with a pencil – that is, underline or highlight passages you feel are important or worth remembering. Get in the habit of writing in the margins. This not only involves you in the text, but it serves as a study guide when you review the book. You will need to review, as you will be tested over the novel at the start of the school year. Be familiar with the plot, characters, themes, terms, and structure of the work. Think about what **makes a hero**, consider the book in terms of genre, style, and language, and apply analytical thinking to the literary elements you encounter. Take notes as you read – and reread.