

AP English: Literature and Composition- Summer Assignments

The AP Literature test will be given Wednesday, **May 6TH 2020**. The test will measure how well you can analyze literature. To prepare for success on this test you must begin this summer. The reading and writing assignments will allow you to develop a wider and deeper view of literature.

Your seriousness of purpose about this course will become immediately apparent with these summer assignments. A.P. English is for students who are serious about passing the A.P. Literature test. Scoring well on the exam may earn you college credits, or it may even take the place of the college 'Comp' class that is required by most colleges and universities. This course is not designed to be an 'Ultra Honors' class.

With this in mind- think seriously about the rapid speed we will be working at, as well as the amount of time you will need to devote to our readings, and writing assignments. You are the only one who can decide if this is the right course for you. This course will require you to balance your own time and manage multiple deadlines.

The Summer Assignment is comprised of THREE parts (*How to Read Literature Like a Professor, Poetry Skills Focus and a Novel/ Play of Your Choice from the Attached List*). **All grades from these assignments will be counted for the first marking period- BUT please note the due dates of each.**

**** Sign Up for Google Classroom-**

- a. You can use this to communicate with other students, see reminders, helpful tips and announcements, and receive info for paper submission through Turnitin.com.
- b. You must use your Cape May Tech email to do this.

Using the Classroom Code to join:

1. Go to Google Classroom.
2. Click on the plus sign in the right hand corner.
3. Click join class.
4. Then type in the classroom code and click join.



- c. Class Code- ofbcg2j

1.) FREE CHOICE-- READ --- Novel / Play of Your Choice (see attached list)

- d. Write a literary analysis. Your paper should analyze the characterization of the main character.
- e. Discuss-- the six elements of **characterization** (1-physical description; 2-setting; 3-thoughts; 4-words; 5-actions; 6-behavior of others) for each character.
- f. Cite text-- to illustrate your point for each of the six elements.
- g. Evaluate- how the writer uses each characterization to help express the book's **theme**. Think of theme as a life lesson, not just a concept (ex. BAD= "*The main theme in To Kill a Mockingbird is racism.*" GOOD= "*The main and underlying theme in the novel is that of black slavery, its abolition and the subsequent lack of its acceptance in the southern community. Harper Lee has portrayed the deep-set traditional way of thinking of the southerners who are unable to accept that the blacks have been released from the bonds of slavery. So, even if externally there are no slaves, the blacks have not yet been openly admitted into the whites' fold and are denied the equality they deserve and even have a right to. The whites find it difficult and unacceptable to consider them equal. This theme has been illustrated while depicting the lifestyle of the black*")

community and the varied problems they face from the white community.”) The first example is a concept= racism. The second is a fully realized theme.

- h. **FORMAT**- This paper should be 3-5 typed pages, double spaced, 12 font. Note specific examples from each book by citing passages and page numbers. Use the standard MLA format for the paper. Your thesis should be clearly stated in paragraph one.
- i. DO NOT USE THE INTERNET OR ANY OTHER SOURCES TO HELP YOU.
- j. Any ideas borrowed from other sources will result in a zero for that paper. The writings are for you to practice your analytic skills.
- k. Be sure to proofread and revise your writing. Show me your best!
- l. Submit through Google Classroom
- m. *******This paper is due August 15. *******

2) Poetry Skills Focus - READ & ANALYZE

- a. Using the ‘**Questions for Writing about Poetry**’ (attached with this packet) you will evaluate the following 10 poems.
 - i. *Stopping by Woods on a Snowy Evening*
 - ii. *A Song in the Front Yard*
 - iii. *My Papa’s Waltz*
 - iv. *War Is Kind*
 - v. *It is a beauteous evening*
 - vi. *To My Dear and Loving Husband*
 - vii. *Sound and Sense*
 - viii. *When I have fears that I may cease to be*
 - ix. *Death, be not proud*
 - x. *A Red, Red Rose*
- b. Submit a typed packet of responses for each poem above.
- c. This Skills Focus will give you some experience annotating and discussing poetry- this will make up a large portion of our exam preparation.

3) Purchase your own copy of *How to Read Literature Like a Professor* by Thomas C. Foster.

- a. Create a list of the chapters and the name of at least ONE story, play, or novel you have read that demonstrates the element discussed in the chapter.
- b. This book will prove invaluable in exposing you to a variety of common literary elements that we will be discussing during the year.

Enjoy the summer and the readings. If you need any clarification, you may contact me through Google Classroom OR email me mreider@capemaytech.com.

WORKS OF "LITERARY MERIT"

1. *Pride & Prejudice* - Jane Austen
2. *Jane Eyre* - Charlotte Bronte
3. *Heart of Darkness* - Joseph Conrad
4. *Great Expectations*- Charles Dickens
5. *Mrs. Dalloway*- Virginia Woolf
6. *Medea*- Euripides (play)
7. *Invisible Man*- Ralph Ellison
8. *The Sun Also Rises*- Ernest Hemingway
9. *The Metamorphosis*- Franz Kafka
10. *ANY Shakespeare*- William Shakespeare (except Hamlet or Romeo & Juliet)
11. *Moby Dick*- Herman Melville
12. *Adventures of Huckleberry Finn*- Mark Twain
13. *The Stranger*- Albert Camus

Summer - AP Literature Poetry Skills Focus

Directions: Detailed poetry analysis and discussion is a core component of the AP Literature exam. Type up your responses to the following prompts. Get in the habit of including brief quotes when appropriate, such “*tree*” and “*flea*” when discussing rhyme schemes etc.

1. Who is the speaker of the poem?
 - a. How would you characterize this speaker?
2. Where does the speaker reveal his or her attitude toward the poem subject?
 - a. Do the speaker's attitude or feelings change at any point, if so where and with what implications?
3. What is the speaker's situation?
 - a. What is happening in the poem?
4. Do you understand the denotations of all the words used in the poem?
 - a. Look up any words you are not completely sure of.
5. Which words convey the richest connotations?
 - a. What do these connotations contribute to your understanding of the poem?
6. What kinds of imagery does the poem include?
 - a. Do you detect any patterns among the images?
 - b. What do the images collectively suggest?
7. What kinds of figures of speech occur in the poem?
 - a. How important are figures of comparison such as simile and metaphor?
8. How did the poem figures of speech contribute to the poems vividness and concreteness?
 - a. What do they contribute to its feeling and meaning?
9. What details of language and action carry symbolic implications?
 - a. How do you know?

10. Does the poem exhibit a pattern of linked allegorical details?
11. What kinds of sentences does the poet use?
 - a. What kind of structure and pattern to the poem sentences exhibit?
12. What does the poem syntax reveal about the state of mind of its speaker?
13. How is the poem organized?
 - a. How do its stanzas or major sections develop?
14. How are the stanzas or major sections of the poem related?
15. Does the poem rhyme?
 - a. Does it employ assonance, alliteration, onomatopoeia, or other forms of sound play?
 - i. With what effects?
16. What kinds of rhythm and meter does the poem include?
 - a. Does the rhythm change or is the meter varied at any point?
 - i. With what effects?
17. How did the poetic elements create and convey the poem's meanings?
18. Do you think there is more than one theme?
 - a. Why or why not?
19. Is the theme of the poem explicit or implicit?
 - a. Is it conveyed more clearly in one part of the poem than another?