

2010-2011 Summer Reading assignments for High School:

DUE DATES: ALL SUMMER READING ASSIGNMENTS ARE DUE THE END OF THE FIRST WEEK OF CLASS, FRIDAY, AUGUST 20, 2010. IN ADDITION, STUDENTS SHOULD ALSO BE PREPARED TO TAKE AN OBJECTIVE TEST OVER THE TEXT(S) READ FRIDAY AUGUST 20, 2010.

Crossroads I, Crossroads II, English I, English I Pre-AP, English II, English II Pre-AP:

Read selected novel(s) and choose 10 quotes/passages from each novel that are the most significant. Write a brief statement explaining why you chose the particular quote. (**Do not** use outside sources like *Spark Notes*, *Cliff's Notes*, *Bookrags* etc... as a guide.)

In addition, create 10 *original* multiple choice questions (with five options as possible answers) based on each summer reading text. Include an answer key with page numbers from the text where the answers can be found. Two questions should be based on plot, five on character, and three on stylistic elements. (Students should already know what stylistic/literary elements include; part of the assignment includes assessing student understanding and use of terms previously studied.) Questions will be graded based on grade-level appropriate academic rigor, originality and accuracy. (Students required to read two texts will turn in a total of 20 quotes and 20 questions- 10 for each text.)

English III, English III Pre-AP:

The theme for the year is *Exploring the American Dream*; write a paper explaining how the main character(s) pursue(s) the "American Dream" and the ending result of the pursuit. How does the outcome of the pursuit illuminate the meaning of the novel as a whole? (What is the author suggesting about The American Dream?) Avoid mere plot summary.

Suggested length is 2-4 pages typed, double spaced. (Pre-AP Students should write a separate answer for each text.)

English IV:

The theme for the year is *Making an Impact: Choices and Consequences: Vice and Virtue*. Write a paper explaining the choices presented to the main character(s) in each selection and the ending result of their choices. How does the outcome of the choices made reflect the meaning of the work as a whole? Avoid mere plot summary.

Suggested length is 2-4 pages typed, double spaced. Students should pay particular attention to sentence variation and diction.

AP English Lang:

For each text explore how the author uses imagery, diction, structure, etc. to accomplish his purpose for writing the text. For example, what does Hersey accomplish by writing *Hiroshima* and how does he accomplish it? Does he wish to convince his audience of something? Does he simply inform us and of what? Etc. Then explore: what rhetorical strategies does he employ to accomplish this purpose? Write a 2-4 pages typed, double spaced response for each of the works you read. Avoid mere plot summary; instead focus on what the author is trying to accomplish and how he accomplishes it. Feel free to access your text *The Language of Composition* for examples and ideas for this assignment. (If possible, use the Norton Edition of Sinclair's *The Jungle*.)

AP English Lit:

One definition of madness is “mental delusion or the eccentric behavior arising from it.” But Emily Dickinson wrote: Much madness is divinest Sense--/ To a discerning Eye—

Novelists and playwrights have often seen madness with a “discerning Eye,” as is the case within *King Lear*, *Waiting for Godot* and *Screwtape Letters*. Write a well-organized essay in which you explain what the delusion or eccentric behavior in the text consists of and how it might be judged reasonable. Explain the significance of the “madness” to the work as a whole. Do not merely summarize the plot.

Answer the prompt separately for two of the texts you have read. Be prepared to do a timed writing in class for the third text.

DUE DATE: ALL SUMMER READING ASSIGNMENTS ARE DUE THE END OF THE FIRST WEEK OF CLASS, FRIDAY, AUGUST 20, 2010. IN ADDITION, STUDENTS SHOULD ALSO BE PREPARED TO TAKE AN OBJECTIVE TEST OVER THE TEXT(S) READ FRIDAY AUGUST 20, 2010.

*If students have any questions about the assignment, have them email their teacher.