

AP Literature and Composition

Teacher: Mrs. Jolanda Sandy

Summer Reading Assignments

*****This assignment is due on August 30, 2017, regardless as to whether you are taking the course in the fall or spring. Be prepared for an essay exam/test on each work on the third day as well.*****

1. You should plan to **read** the following books over the summer:
Heart of Darkness by Joseph Conrad (available at Barnes and Noble)
Invisible Man by Ralph Ellison (available at Barnes and Noble)- be sure you get the right copy!
There is a book with the same title by H.G. Wells
2. For each book, please **complete a dialectical journal** while you read. Please see below instructions.
3. You will need to type up your dialectical journals and submit them in the drop box via the group Edmodo code.

Dialectical Journal Instructions

Purpose: The term “Dialectic” means “the art or practice of arriving at the truth by using conversation involving question and answer.” Think of your dialectical journal as a series of conversations with the texts we read during this course. The process is meant to help you develop a better understanding of the texts we read. Use your journal to incorporate textual ideas about theme, symbolism, setting, character, and conflict. You will find that it is a useful way to process what you’re reading, gather textual evidence, and prepare yourself for group discussion.

Procedure: As you read, choose passages and/or quotations that stand out to you and record them in the left-hand column of a T-chart. **Use the exact format as shown below: response label/page number/speaker**

- You must have at least 3-5 quotes for each chapter
- In the right column, write your response to the text (ideas/insights, questions, reflections, and comments on each passage)
- Label your responses using the following:
 - Theme – explain how a passage/quote relates to a theme in the novel
 - Symbolism – explain the significance of the symbols within the novel
 - Setting – explain how the settings affect the novel or characters overall
 - Character - make a judgment about the character(s), their actions, or what the author is trying to say
 - Conflict – explain the conflicts within the novel

Sample Dialectical Journal entry:

Passages from the text	Pg#s	Comments & Questions
“The floating sheets of ice that continually pass us... [do not] dismay us.” Theme Letter 3/ Page 8/ Robert Walton	Pg 8	Walton informs his sister Margaret Saville of the vast and empty ice sheets that passed them every day exemplified the Romantic themes of mystery and the wild. The emptiness of the arctic also showed many Gothic themes of isolation and loneliness, which Walton and the crew all experience before the arrival of Frankenstein, who was almost dead.
“My more than sister, since till death she was mine only.”Foreshadowing/Theme Chapter 1/ Page 21/ Victor Frankenstein	Pg. 21	Frankenstein refers to the new family member Elizabeth as more than a sister and says that it will be death that will take them apart. In a more direct sense, this passage shows the intense love felt by Victor for Elizabeth. This passion and emotion felt by Victor were common in novels of the time; it shows the characteristics of the Romantic Era. At the same time, the phrase “till death” foreshadows the death of Elizabeth later on in the novel.