

AP Literature Summer Assignment 2023

Mrs. Cole

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"The role of a writer is not to say what we can all say, but what we are unable to say."

--Anais Nin

"You should write because you love the shape of stories and sentences and the creation of different words on a page. Writing comes from reading, and reading is the finest teacher of how to write."

--Annie Proulx

Introduction

Your summer assignment is a chance for you to read a variety of texts, explore ideas, and write in response to what you are reading and thinking. The assignment has three parts and all work is due the first full class period of school.

I have links to all the texts that are available online. You will need to purchase a copy of the novel you select.

Enjoy the privilege of reading great texts. Enjoy the writing process.

I look forward to being with you in the fall. Please e-mail me with any questions you might have.

Part I—Organizing

After watching StudyTee's notes system, think about how you can benefit from this organization method that will be used for this summer and throughout the year. Watch both videos.

How I Take Notes <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=amVHBIhWwCo>

10 Note-Taking Tips <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=m5cQ5bWLi2A&t=104s>

Assignment

Get a notebook of your choice with the style of paper that you prefer (lined, graph, blank, bullet point, etc.) We will use this notebook to create notes for the major works that we study, so find one that you like.

Why is it important

The process of learning something often starts out feeling disorganized and unwieldy; the most important aspects are not always the most noticeable. Consolidation helps organize and solidify learning. This notebook will serve as a means to consolidate what you have learned throughout the year, allowing you to retrieve the significant process we make. Make it your own.

Part II—Seeing

Text – The NerdWriter Analyzes Edward Hopper’s “Nighthawks”

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=7j5pUtRcNX4>

Evan Puschak has his own YouTube channel (NerdWriter) in which he offers video essays. His videos cover art, film, politics, and literature. His work is thoughtful and informed. In the specific video that I would like for you to review, he analyzes one of the iconic 20th century American paintings, “Nighthawks.” Pay close attention not only to what he sees, but also notice the biographical and historical context he weaves into his analysis of the work. Notice how he uses both imagery and words to teach you about the painting.

Assignment

Use your StudyTee note process to write a two-page analysis of a work of art that has meaning to you. It can be a work of literature, painting, or song. Analyze the work on a similar level of that of Evan Puschak’s (The NerdWriter). Consider how Puschak has researched the background of the “Nighthawks” painting—do the same. In your notes, find an organized way to explain the work’s artistic merit (**Artistic merit** means evidence of some or all of the following: Potential impact on the artistic and/or cultural development of a community or individuals; and/or potential to broaden access to, expand and diversify the audiences for, and/or strengthen communities through the arts. - and value.) *Don’t provide a summary.* Consider how it operates and why it is important. Allow your words to reveal the complexity of the work and articulate what the work means to you. Explain how this work remains relevant.

Part III—Reading

Text 1

Why I read? <https://200.hc.com/why-i-read/>

Assignment

Write a page of notes about your relationship with reading. Share an honest assessment of the role that it plays in your life. Think about how you would categorize the impact reading has had on your life. Be honest. I want to read why you feel the way that you do, so I can understand you as a reader.

Text 2

Any novel on this list <https://www.nationalbook.org/national-book-awards/years/>

Or on this list <https://www.pulitzer.org/prize-winners-by-category/219>

Assignment

Read any novel on the National Book Award list or the list of Pulitzer Prize winners for fiction from the past 20 years. Just click on the titles to learn more about each book. Pick any book you will enjoy that has literary merit.

Then create 3 (three) pages of notes about the book you selected to read. Organize however you’d like. I’m asking you to create three interesting pages of notes about your reading experience. It is up to you to make it

awesome! I respect your ability to make connections to other texts, ideas, cultural perspectives, eras, and personal experiences.

Text 3

Poetry Foundation Poem of the Day

<https://www.poetryfoundation.org/poems/poem-of-the-day>

Assignment

Poetry Foundation features a poem each day from a diverse list of present and past poems. Select two poems from any dates over the summer and create notes for each. The notes you make should focus on an analysis of each poem. Look for interrelated parts and find aspects that provide meaning. Here are two examples for you to review, so you will have a better understanding. Remember that music is poetry, so if you can analyze your favorite song, you can analyze poetry.

<http://emilyspoetryblog.com/the-road-not-taken-by-robert-frost/>

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=kffo3pxNO7c>