Summer Reading Assignment 2015

Advanced Placement English Language and Composition

Over the summer, you are to complete the following assignments.

**All work must be handed in on the first day of school and must be typed.**

**No late work will be accepted.**

**If you do not complete the assignment, you may be reassigned to another class section that is not AP.**

Contact information for the AP English Language and Composition Teachers:

Mrs. Vargas ([Vargas.al@easthartford.org](mailto:Vargas.al@easthartford.org)) / Ms. Cutkomp ([Cutkomp.ra@easthartford.org](mailto:Cutkomp.ra@easthartford.org))

**Part I: What Are Essays?**

To prepare yourself for AP English Language and Composition, it is important for you to realize that this course will be unlike most English classes you took in the past. The majority of the class syllabus is devoted to non-fiction essays by writers that span different time periods, ages, ethnicities, experiences, races, political viewpoints, and a host of other characteristics. It is important you read “What Are Essays?” in order to begin the school year with a basic understanding of rhetoric and rhetorical analysis. While you read, take notes and annotate to ensure you understand the material.

Within the first week of school, you will have a quiz on this reading material.

**Part II: Required Reading and Dialectical Journal**

You are required to read:

* ***The Narrative of the Life of Frederick Douglass, an American Slave*** by Frederick Douglass

**Dialectical Journal**

As you read, you must keep a **dialectical journal.** The dialectical journal should include **10 typed entries**.

**\*What is a Dialectical Journal?**

A dialectical journal is another name for a double-entry journal or a reader-response journal. A dialectical journal is a journal that records a dialogue, or conversation, between the ideas in the text (the words that you are reading) and the ideas of the reader (the person who is doing the reading). Write down your thoughts, questions, insights, and ideas while you read.

Use this assignment to demonstrate **your understanding of literary analysis, literature, and literary terms**. Explore the text, provide smart observations, and discuss how we are to consider these books in a cultural or historical context.

Do not use incidents in these books as springboards to a discussion or recollection of events in your ***own***personal narrative. This is **NOT** a summary of what you read. The purpose of this assignment is to determine how well you understand the **author’s craft**.

**Your journal will use a two-entry form:**

* In the LEFT COLUMN, record a quote that you think is interesting or important. This quote must be properly cited using MLA format.
* In the RIGHT COLUMN, write down YOUR OWN thoughts, commentary, and questions about the stuff in the LEFT COLUMN.
* See below for Dialectical Journal format.

**Example of Dialectical Journal**

Last Name 1

First and Last Name

AP English Language and Composition

Date

Dialectical Journal: *Nickel and Dimed* by Barbara Ehrenreich

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| Quote | Your own thoughts, commentary, questions, insights, connections, etc… |
| Something is wrong, very wrong, when a single person in good health, a person who in addition possesses a working car, can barely support herself by the sweat of her brow (Ehrenreich 99). | Is Ehrenreich’s experience any different than that of the average American in 2012? I would hope that she is biased in her beliefs, but I have a feeling that the dilemmas she faces as a low-wage worker are true, honest, and indicative of a major problem in our culture. Her text is a real social commentary about economics, class, and society. She also alludes to specific problems with the health care system. I wonder if she will eventually discuss the impact of education on all of these things. |

**Part III: Rhetorical Analysis**

You will demonstrate your rhetorical analysis skills by completing the following:

* Annotate the 2010 AP Language and Composition Question #2 Prompt
* Write a 2-3 page rhetorical analysis essay responding to the prompt
* This essay must be typed and follow MLA guidelines
* Save your essay electronically, as it will be necessary for you to access this file in the first few weeks of school

Parts II & III should adhere to the following requirements:

* Proper paragraphing
* Times New Roman 12 pt or Calibri 11 pt font
* 1” Margins
* Double spaced
* Page numbers begin on and with page 1
* Type your last name next to the page number so it appears on every page
* The title is centered, but NOT bolded, underlined, italicized or increased in font size

Summer Reading Assignment 2014 Name:

AP Language and Composition

|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
| **Category** | **Description** | **Points Available** |
| **Part I** | | |
| **“What Are Essays?”** | * Read text * Take notes/annotate * Be prepared for quiz in first week of school | \_\_\_\_\_ / 30 points  *(This grade will come from the quiz you take in the first week of school.)* |
| **Part II** | | |
| ***The Narrative of the Life of Frederick Douglass, An American Slave***  **&**  **Dialectical Journal** | * Read text * Complete dialectical journal * Complete 10 entries which demonstrate a thorough understanding of the novel. * Include thoughtfully chosen and appropriate passages from the text * Provide convincing and insightful commentary * Maintain neatness of presentation and correctness of style. | \_\_\_\_\_ / 30 points |
| **Part III** | | |
| **Rhetorical Analysis** | * Annotate prompt * Write a 2-3 page rhetorical analysis essay responding to the prompt | \_\_\_\_\_/ 30 points |
|  | | |
| **Overall Appearance & Format** | * MLA Formatting and Guidelines * Correct order (This rubric, dialectical journal, rhetorical analysis essay) | \_\_\_\_\_/10 points |
|  | **Total** | \_\_\_\_\_/100 points |