

A.P. English Summer Work

Summer Reading:

Poisonwood Bible by Barbara Kingsolver – Annotations due August 7th

As you read, consider the following important elements of the novel.

- Characters—how does Kingsolver portray them? Consider thematic nomenclature.
- Identify and reflect on the significance of character foils.
- Biblical allusions
- Symbols and motifs/ recurring details
- Imagery
- Foreshadowing
- Tone/ attitude of the narrators
- Diction/ syntax and how both are used to create distinctive voices for the characters
- Theme/ thematic ideas
- Structure of the novel, including the significance of the quotes that precede each section

“How to Mark a Book” by Mortimer J. Adler which can be found on Google classroom.

1. Annotations are the words you write about the text, not the text you underline or highlight. When my students first begin practicing annotation in my class, I tell them that they may not underline a word in a text, unless they write WHY they underlined it. Even if it’s just a question mark, or an exclamation point, forcing themselves to write their reason for underlining makes them consider their thoughts about that text, focusing and deepening their analysis. They are less likely to mark everything as significant, because they are held accountable for discussing the significance of what they mark.

2. Annotation is a conversation. When we don’t remember what we just read, it’s often because we were reading passively. When we actively read a text, we engage in a mental conversation with its ideas and this is what annotation should reflect.

3. There are many ways to interact with a text. Everybody has a tendency when it comes to the type of annotations they tend to write – I always ask a lot of questions and make personal connections to what I read – it varies depending on the type of text I’m reading and my purpose for reading it. Use a variety of annotation techniques including one- sentence summaries, making predictions, questioning, making connections, and forming opinions. As I demonstrate what each strategy looks like and then have students practice them as a class and individually, students add to their arsenal of response methods.

Also please order before the beginning of the year:

Wordly Wise 3000 Book 12 Grade 12 – This can be ordered at amazon.com. Don’t delay.

Google Classroom Code: **5507k55**

In addition, you will need to keep a summer journal which will be due on August 4th.

If you need me over the summer, email me at susan.barber@cowetaschools.net or find me on Twitter at @susanclaireb.

Summer Activities - Journal (links to many of these places are found on Google classroom).

Having a broad range of experiences upon which one can draw is important to understanding the resonance of many of the works we read. In preparation, I would like for you to broaden your experiences this summer. As part of your summer activities, keep a journal. The following items should be in journal when you turn it in on the **FIRST** day of school:

- Entries for at least **three days per week** beginning with the week of May 29th, 2017. Write about the experiences you have, the things you are reading both for summer reading and in addition to it, your thoughts on important philosophical ideas, etc. (A minimum of 27 entries)
- You must also choose at least **five** of the following activities to complete. Document your experience in your journal by writing a reflection of not less than one page for each activity. You may include pictures or drawings. Each journal entry about the five activities you select should include an item number and the date you completed the activity. These can count for as part of the 27 entries.
- In addition, you should also find **two poems** that you find particularly enjoyable and/or meaningful and write about them in your journal.

1. Attend a summer festival. Try the Atlanta Jazz Festival (free) during Memorial Day weekend, Atlanta Ice Cream Festival, Toons from the Tombs, Summer Film Festival at the Fox, Atlanta Food Truck Festival, or any others you can find. Go fishing.
2. Go to a museum or a historic attraction. Try the High Museum if you've never been.
3. Spend a day without electronics (no cell phones, ipods, TVs, etc). I would love for everyone to try this. You can survive without electronics.
4. Explore a neighborhood in Atlanta. Eat at the Krog Street Market. Walk the Belt Line. Shop at Westside Provisions.
5. Do some gardening. If you need a place to work, try the 180 Degree Farm.
6. Hike at least 5 miles in a national or state park or on the Appalachian Trail.
7. Talk with a grandparent or older adult (40 + years older) about life in their younger years.
8. Go tent camping at least 10 miles from home (or anyone's home).
9. Go to the theater (not the movie theater) to see a live production. Try the Shakespeare Tavern, plays in Piedmont Park, or
10. Work on a farm (at least a couple of hours).
11. Eat at least 3 different meals from 3 different foreign cultures.
12. Work a shelter, food pantry, or other organization (i.e. Bridging the Gap) preparing or delivering food for the elderly or disadvantaged.
13. Visit with the patients at a nursing home.
14. Go fishing or horseback riding. (Nature = Thoreau)
15. Prepare a meal for your family and then enjoy it with them.
16. Pick wild blackberries or any wild berries.
17. Attend a service of a different religion or interview a person of a different religion.
18. Repair or build something or do some kind of maintenance (changing oil, rotating tires).
19. Plan a trip – map out the route, find places to stay, and located points of interest to visit.
20. Spend an evening playing board games or cards with your family and friends.

21. Visit a cemetery and read the headstones. Consider the history of family, community, state, and nation embodied in these headstones. Reflect on your experiences. Creepy but fun. Try Oakwood Cemetery in Atlanta then go to Six Feet Under or Tin Lizzies for dinner.

22. Visit a quiet spot on a beach, by a stream, or by a lake. Spend an hour in thought and record your thoughts in a journal or notebook.

Why keep a journal?

Writing is born out of experience. A large part of this class is about helping you find your writing voice. Finding your voice takes time. Writing throughout the summer will give you time to begin to figure out your voice. Be yourself when you write. Don't try to be too serious or academic. Be funny. Be sarcastic. Be vulnerable. Be real.

What is a journal?

A journal is what you make of it -- the more you put into it, the more benefit you will see. It is your journal and, as long as you are serious about it (and yourself), you will receive full credit for it (see specific instructions below for what I expect of your journal). Hopefully your journal will be much more (and a little less) than a diary. I am not interested in your daily routine or what you had for lunch. If, on the other hand, you wish to record your dreams last night or a rough draft of a poem or an interesting quote from a friend, please utilize your journal.

I hope that you will consider buying a bound journal -- something costing between \$5 and \$20, a cheap spiral notebook is often another way of saying, "My thoughts aren't really valuable." If you wish, you might even try constructing your own journal, but you should remember that what you put in the interior of your journal is most important.

Will I read your journal?

I will only read with your permission. I will, of course, want to read a page or so about each of your summer activities and readings, but you are free to photocopy or transcribe these or designate sections of your journals as personal.

Remember, writing more in your journal will benefit YOU. There will be a reward later for being diligent in your journaling efforts. Writing improves your skill at writing.

Remember to write at least three days per week. Waiting until the end of the summer and then trying to go back and "recapture" the days you missed may fill up the pages and give you a certain number of entries. It does not fulfill the intent of the assignment, however, nor does it provide you with the kind of writing practice that will be beneficial to you during the school year. Additionally, academic integrity is important. As you approach the end of your high school experience, think about what is right and ethical. Therefore, keep up with your work rather than trying to recreate it in a hurried manner at the end of the summer. Will I know if you wait and then write all at one time? Maybe I will, and maybe I will not. You, however, will know, and that is what is most important.

Happy journaling!