

English III AP Language & Composition

Summer Assignment 2017

Mrs. Stiebing

1. **NOVEL ASSIGNMENT:** *As I Lay Dying* by William Faulkner. **Read and annotate** this novel by using the rhetorical terms vocabulary list posted on my moodle. You will be enrolled in my moodle before summer begins so that you can access this packet. Use the packet in its entirety when annotating. This is not to say that you will find evidence of every vocab word in the novel, but do your best to familiarize yourself with these words. This will help your transition into the class since this class has its own specialized vocabulary. We will use this novel to analyze narrative structure and rhetoric (each character has his/her own rhetoric).

- **A note about the novel:** This is an unusual novel. If you know what to expect, it will read easier for you: The Bundren family is on a journey to Jefferson, Mississippi to bury their mother, Addie Bundren. She dies early in the novel; the point of this novel is not her death, but rather the journey and the development of the characters (or lack of development). The story is told from multiple perspectives – in other words, each character tells his/her version of the same event. Whose perspective do you believe? Which narrator is most trustworthy? **Your job is to track the characters** by noting what they say and also **to follow the plot** at the same time. **Take notes** the traditional way or using sticky notes and tabs to eliminate confusion for yourself. Once you know to expect this kind of narration and once you get to know the characters, the novel becomes easier to read.

- **Character Expectation** – None of the characters have many redeeming qualities. They are selfish, back-woods, uneducated, unaware country folks who live far out of town. **Notice how others react to them throughout the novel.**
- **Southern Gothic** – *noun 1.a literary genre depicting life in the southern US and featuring grotesque themes and imagery.*

This novel explores the Southern Gothic. Characters are unusual and you will laugh at them for their ignorance – kind of like a dark humor – you laugh even though maybe you shouldn't. **Notice this as well throughout the novel.**

(For more examples of the Southern Gothic see any of Flannery O'Connor's short stories if interested.)

My expectation for you: I expect that you will have an annotated novel (for rhetorical vocab terms) as well as notes about characters & plot (your own observations). I expect that you will be able to discuss this novel and understand any references made to it at the beginning of the year as well as throughout the year.

2. **AP TEST PREP PRACTICE BOOK:** Purchase a test prep book. There are many to choose from at any bookstore. Choose one that offers several practice full test, though. For part two of your summer assignment, you need to **complete ONE full multiple choice test** as well as **ONE Question 2 Free Response** essay (a rhetorical analysis) before you begin the school year. We will use your prep book throughout the school year in class as well as out of class. However, it is imperative that you are exposed to the format and rigor of the test before you begin the year. This will also help make your transition much easier in learning how to do a rhetorical analysis.

Email: I will check my email weekly over the summer. Email me if you have any questions or confusion.

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Due date: Wednesday, August 16, 2017