

Summer Reading Assignment

AP English Literature

Part 1

School year 2023-24

Due Date: The first week of school - not orientation week. You cannot use the essay/project late pass for this assignment.

Reading: *The Remains of the Day* by Kazuo Ishiguro

Part 1 - Annotation Assignment:

You should annotate as you read. Just as you have done in the past, look for how the author does each of the following: 1) develops characters, 2) describes settings, 3) uses literary devices (motif, figurative language, etc.), 4) develops themes, and 5) anything else you find interesting/worth discussing. **I expect your books to be heavily annotated.** You may write in your book, use sticky notes, or use regular paper (handwrite or type).

Due to the nature of this assignment, you may use abbreviations to a reasonable degree. This would include using “&” for “and” and other widely accepted abbreviations, such as “w/” for “with” and “b/c” for “because.” Do not use numbers to represent words, such as “2” for “to” or “4” for “for.”

Note: Under no circumstances will I accept for credit a book that has comments/annotations written by another student, friend, relative, etc. You must use a clean copy of the book, and you will receive a grade for your book annotations.

Part 2 - Written Assignment:

Do not use any online sources for this part of the assignment, including AI writing tools.

Complete sections I-III (in this order):

I. Discussion/Essay Questions: Write three questions that a teacher might ask you about the novel either in class or for an essay. These questions should be thought-provoking and almost always take more than one line to type because they ask readers to combine more than one idea. Just *writing* these types of questions helps you to anticipate what questions might be asked of you in class discussion or on a test and encourages you to think more insightfully about the book or play.

II. Key Passage: Choose the most important passage in the novel (in your opinion). Type it up word-for-word. Make sure to identify the speakers (if dialogue) and list the page number.

III. Key Passage Explanation: In a fully-developed paragraph, explain why your chosen passage is important to understanding the novel. Discuss any mentioned or inferred themes connected to the key passage.

Complete section IV:

IV. Essay (2-3 typed pages): In many works of literature, past events can affect, positively or negatively, the present actions, attitudes, or values of a character. For *The Remains of the Day*, discuss how Stevens must contend with some aspect of the past, either personal or societal. Then write an essay in which you show how Stevens' relationship to the past contributes to the meaning of the work (theme).

*The entirety of Part 2 can be written on the same document, or you may have a separate document for section 4.

You can email me with any questions at mschafstall@temima.org

Happy reading! I look forward to discussing this book with you in the fall.

Summer Reading Assignment

AP English Literature

Part 2

Due Date: The second week of classes – but I strongly suggest that you at least have the book read before school starts as I will begin assigning homework the first week of school, including writing assignments. (You cannot use the essay/project late pass for this assignment.)

This is an independent reading/writing assignment. We will not be discussing these works of literature in class.

Choose one of the following:

The Story of Lucy Gault by William Trevor

The Tempest by William Shakespeare

A Tale of Two Cities by Charles Dickens

Persuasion by Jane Austen

Crime and Punishment by Fyodor Dostoyevsky

The Mayor of Casterbridge by Thomas Hardy

*email me for approval if you would like to read a book that is not on this list

*Annotations are not part of this assignment, and you do not need to hand in the book, which can be either purchased or borrowed.

Written Assignment:

Do not use any online sources for this part of the assignment, including AI writing tools.

Complete the following sections (in this order):

I. Discussion/Essay Questions: Write three questions that a teacher might ask you about the novel either in class or for an essay. These questions should be thought-provoking and almost always take more than one line to type because they ask readers to combine more than one idea. Just *writing* these types of questions helps you to anticipate what questions might be asked of you in class discussion or on a test and encourages you to think more insightfully about the book or play.

II. Key Passage: Choose the most important passage in the novel (in your opinion). Type it up word-for-word in the approach paper. Make sure to identify the speakers (if dialogue) and list the page number.

III. Key Passage Explanation: In a fully-developed paragraph, explain why your chosen passage is important to understanding the novel. Discuss any mentioned or inferred themes connected to the key passage.

IV. Essay (2-3 typed pages): Critic Roland Barthes has said “Literature is the question minus the answer.” Considering Barthes’ observation, write an essay in which you analyze a central question raised in the novel and the extent to which it offers any answers. Explain how the author’s treatment of this question affects your understanding of the work as a whole. Avoid plot summary.