LCA

2019

Summer Reading

AP LITERATURE & COMPOSITION

or

DUAL ENROLLMENT COMPOSITION 101 & 102

Name_____

High School Summer Reading Instructions
AP Literature & Composition and
Dual Enrollment Composition 101 & 102

The purpose of summer reading is to expose the student to additional authors and works we simply can't get to during the school year. Organizing details and concepts helps the reader focus on the components of the story as well as keeping the skill of reading fresh in the mind of the student.

Another purpose of summer reading is to equip students with the skills necessary to read and understand literature independently. We understand this is a process and requires skills taught in class and practiced outside of class. If, while reading a novel for summer requirements, you feel that you need additional help understanding the material – the plot, characters, themes, etc… - we ask you to please make use of additional resources available on the Internet. These resources include but are not limited to the following websites: www.cliffnotes.com; www.pinkmonkey.com; www.bookrags.com; www.shmoop.com; or www.sparknotes.com. **While these resources are not to be used in lieu of reading the novels, they can be very beneficial to learning how to pick out elements, understand different types of writing, and analyze literature of different genres.**

AP Literature and Dual Enrollment students have two required readings. Over the summer, students need to read *Wuthering Heights* and *The Importance of Being Earnest* and fill out the respective graphic organizer that the instructor will grade for completion. The graphic organizer charts in this packet gives students a place to make note of chapter highlights and to respond to questions given by the instructor. These graphic organizers are due on the first day of school. In addition to reviewing the details and chapter highlights, students will be tested over *Wuthering Heights* at the end of the second week of school. Class discussions will secure concepts learned while reading the works in preparation for the assessment.

Wuthering Heights **Emily Bronte**

A man named Lockwood rents a lonely manor house, Wuthering Heights, on the isolated moor country of England. There he stumbles upon the story of the old landlord, Heathcliff, and his mysterious past. Lockwood learns of Heathcliff's love for Catherine, her death, and the return of her ghost that haunts him.

The Importance of Being Earnest **Oscar Wilde**

Oscar Wilde's madcap farce about mistaken identities, secret engagements, and lovers' entanglements still delights readers more than a century after its publication. In the play, Cecily Cardew and Gwendolen Fairfax are both in love with the same mythical suitor. Jack Worthing has wooed Gewndolen as "Ernest" while his friend Algernon has also posed as "Ernest" to win the heart of Jack's ward, Cecily. When all four arrive at Jack's country home on the same weekend, the rivals fight for "Ernest's" undivided attention and the "Ernests" to claim their beloveds. Only a senile nursemaid and an old, discarded hand-bag can save the day!

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Wuthering Heights

Students are expected to read the assigned book(s) and complete the graphic organizer using specific examples or details from the novel in preparation for class discussions during the first week of school. Complete the organizer as you read each section. The graphic organizer is due the first day of class, and will be recorded as a grade. After discussing the book, students will be assessed to measure their comprehension of the assigned reading.

Directions for completing the graphic organizer:

1. Read the section.
2. In column 2, make a bulleted list of the chapter highlights - things like characters introduced, plot action, any literary devices you noted. Be detailed, as we will go over the plot together in class.
3. In column 3, answer each question regarding that section fully, using examples from the book when you can. You may use additional paper if needed; simply label each answer for its section and attach the extra paper to your organizer.
4. This graphic organizer is due the first day of school with everything completed.

Chapter(s)	Chapter Highlights	Reader Response
Ch. 1-2		What are Lockwood's first impressions of Heathcliff, his landlord, and of Wuthering Heights?
Ch. 3-4		What does Lockwood want from his housekeeper, Mrs. Nelly Dean, at Thrushcross Grange?
Ch. 5-6		Describe the relationship between Catherine and Heathcliff.

Ch. 7-8		How does Heathcliff's relationship with Catherine change after she returns from her stay at the Linton's (the Grange)?
Ch. 9		Explain this quote: *"It would degrade me to marry Heathcliff now; so he shall never know how I love him; and that, not because he's handsome, Nelly, but because he's more myself than I am."*
Ch. 10		How has Heathcliff changed in the 3 ½ years that he was gone from WH? Explain why you think he left in the first place.
Ch. 11-12		Heathcliff's motivation for everything he does is revenge. Who is his revenge directed toward? Why?

Ch. 13-14		How would you describe the tone of Isabella's letter to Nelly Dean? What does she share about her marriage?
Ch. 15-16 (or Volume II, Ch. 1-2)		After Catherine's death, Nelly Dean twists a lock of Edgar's hair and a lock of Heathcliff's hair together and puts them in Catherine's locket. Explain the symbolism of this gesture.
Ch. 17-18 (or Volume II, Ch. 3-4)		How does Heathcliff get revenge on Hindley in Ch. 17 (or Volume II, Ch. 3)? What is the family relationship between Cathy, Hareton, and Linton?
Ch. 19-20 (or Volume II, Ch. 5-6)		Based on what we know about Heathcliff's character, why do you think he is taking custody of his son, Linton?
Ch. 21-24 (or Volume II, Ch. 7-10)		What are 2 similarities between Heathcliff and Hareton?
Ch. 25-28 (or Volume II, Ch. 11-14)		Why is Heathcliff trying to form a romantic relationship between his son, Linton, and Edgar and Catherine's daughter, Cathy?

Ch. 29-30 (or Volume II, Ch. 15-16)		By the end of this section, Heathcliff has *everything*, Thrushcross Grange and Wuthering Heights. Is he happy? How do we know?
Ch. 31-33 (or Volume II, Ch. 17-19)		Do you feel any sympathy for Heathcliff? Is he just an evil person, or is he merely a product of his circumstances?
Ch. 34 (or Volume II, Ch. 20)		What happens to WH upon Heathcliff's death? What happens to TG? Discuss how Cathy and Hareton are the "functional" version of Catherine and Heathcliff.

Answer the following questions:

1. List the different pairs in this novel.

2. Weather = Change. Give 2 instances of major changes that take place after a storm/rain.

3. In your opinion, were the multiple narrators a strength or a weakness in this novel? Why?

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The Importance of Being Earnest

***FYI: In many ways, *The Importance of Being Earnest* was an artistic breakthrough for Wilde, something between self-parody and a deceptively flippant commentary on the dramatic genre in which Wilde had already had so much success. Wilde's genre of choice was the Victorian melodrama, or "sentimental comedy," derived from the French variety of "well-made play" popularized by Scribe and Sardou. In such plays, fallen women and abandoned children of uncertain parentage figure prominently, letters cross and recross the stage, and dark secrets from the past rise to threaten the happiness of seemingly respectable, well-meaning characters. In Wilde's hands, the form of Victorian melodrama became something else entirely. Part satire, part comedy of manners, and part intellectual farce, this play seems to have nothing at stake because the world it presents is so blatantly and ostentatiously artificial. Below the surface of the light, brittle comedy, however, is a serious subtext that takes aim at the self-righteous moralism and hypocrisy of Victorian society.**

Act I Highlights	**Reader Response**
Setting: _____ **Provide summarized notes for Act I:** **(you may use bullet points or numbers to organize notes)**	**FYI**: Wilde uses puns throughout this play, but the major pun is found within the title. *The Importance of Being Earnest* insinuates the importance of being honest and truthful, while playing on the male name Ernest. As you read the play, try to find other examples of puns and entendres (ambiguity of meaning arising from language that lends itself to more than one interpretation).
	Based on Algernon's dialogue at the beginning of Act I, what seems to be his opinion regarding the institution of marriage?

	FYI: Oscar Wilde coined the term "bunburying" which means "avoiding one's duties and responsibilities by claiming to have appointments to see a fictitious person." Algernon has a fake friend, Bunbury, who he "goes to see" whenever he wants to get out of something or participate in socially unacceptable behavior. Likewise, Jack has a fake brother, Ernest, for the same reasons.
	There is such clever dramatic irony in Act I (when the reader knows something the characters don't know). Explain the dramatic irony of the following conversation between Gwendolen and Jack: "And my ideal has always been to love someone of the name of Ernest. There is something in that name that inspires absolute confidence. The moment Algernon first mentioned to me that he had a friend called Ernest, I knew I was destined to love you." ***Keep looking for dramatic irony – it's abundant!**
	What is the truth about Jack's background?

	At the end of Act I, Algernon says he is going to "visit Bunbury." Having written down the address of Jack's country home, what does it appear that Algy is really up to?

Act II Highlights	**Reader Response**
Setting: _____ **Provide summarized notes for Act II:** **(you may use bullet points or numbers to organize notes)**	When Algernon goes to Jack's Manor House, how does he introduce himself? What is Cecily's response to him?
	When Jack returns to his Manor House dressed in black, what news does he bring from "Paris"?

	FYI: Hopefully, you are seeing the dramatic, verbal, and situational irony flying every which way in this story. Especially note the dramatic irony in Cecily's statement to Algernon: "You must laugh at me, darling, but it had always been a girlish dream of mine to love someone whose name was Ernest. There is something in that name that seems to inspire absolute confidence." Have we heard that somewhere before? Hmmm….. ☺
	Oh no! When Gwendolen shows up at Manor House, what is her first impression of Cecily?
	How does Gwendolen feel about Cecily once Cecily reveals that she is engaged to be married to Ernest Worthing?

	At the end of Act II, where are Jack and Algernon going at 5:30pm and 5:45pm, respectively? Why?
Act III Highlights	**Reader Response**
Setting: _____ **Provide summarized notes for Act III: (you may use bullet points or numbers to organize notes)**	As Lady Bracknell "interviews" Jack regarding Cecily, what appear to be her requirements for any young woman who would marry her nephew?
	According to Lady Bracknell, why doesn't she approve of long engagements? Do you agree or disagree with her thinking? Why?

	Once Lady Bracknell finally gives her consent to the marriage between Algernon and Cecily, Jack refuses to the union! What is his reasoning? (His reasoning is *really* two-fold)
	Explain the significance of the line: ***Prism! Where is that baby?***
	Okay, there's a little overkill on the irony at the end of the play. What is revealed about Jack's true relationship to Algernon? What is revealed about Jack's true christened name? Seriously. ☺

	Jack and Algernon are foils to one another. How are they similar? Different? ***Which man is more likeable? Why?**
	Gwendolen and Cecily are also foils to each other. How are they similar? Different? ***Which woman is more likable? Why?**

Provide an adequate response for and be prepared to discuss the following general questions about T*he Importance of Being Earnest*:

1. **Setting**: Do the two settings in the play, city and country, follow the traditional stereotypes - a city atmosphere of fashion, flirtation, and general frivolity, verses a country atmosphere of simplicity, purity, and, earnestness?

2. Judging by the tone in *Earnest*, what is Wilde's opinion of the aristocracy? Does he approve or disapprove of them?

3. Did you view the female characters as weak or strong? Explain.

4. Did you view the male characters as weak or strong? Explain.

5. *The Importance of Being Earnest* is classified as a comedy of manners - a genre of play/television/film which satirizes (pokes fun at) the manners and affections of a social class often represented by stock characters(stereotypes). The plot of the comedy, often concerned with scandal, is generally less important than its witty dialogue. To what extent does *Earnest* fit that description? (It will help if you know a little something about the values of Victorian England.)