

AP English Language and Composition Summer Fiction Assignment

Dear Future AP English Language and Composition Students,

Welcome to AP English Language and Composition! I am thrilled to be able to offer this class to you next year. You are embarking on a wonderful adventure in writing and reading through the canon of American Literature and Letters. This will be a challenging course, but you will come out of it with some excellent skills that you can carry with you through life. In order to prepare for next year, you will need to complete the following assignments. You should give yourself some time to rest and refresh, then begin by August reading *The Scarlet Letter* by Nathaniel Hawthorne.

JOURNALS

As you read *The Scarlet Letter*, you should annotate as you read each chapter and then select the most relevant quotes to put in your dialectical journal.

These journals will consist of quotations to which you respond critically. Please label the **chapter and date** at the top of each page. Select one quotation or passage for approximately every 15 pages—if a chapter is shorter than 15 pages, you still must choose a quote from that chapter. You need to have at least one quote from each chapter OR one approximately every 15 pages.

Respond to the quotations; **focus on the ways in which the author uses language to create an effect.**

- What is it about the language that stands out and makes the passage distinctive?
- What is your reaction to the characters?
- Are there recurring images or themes that stand out?
- What is your personal reaction to the work?

*****Skip the INTRODUCTION **** and begin your journal on Chapter 1/ p. 41 of the school-issued book.

Responses should be developed thoughtfully and intellectually. An “A” journal will contain responses that are approximately 60 words in length and will contain multiple quotes per chapter. The dialectical journals should be constructed in the following manner:

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Chapter	Date
Quote	Response
<p>“Write the quote on the left side of the paper with the correct MLA citation” (176).</p> <p>You should take a quote approximately every 15 pages. You can have more than one quote and response per page, and you can use the back of the page.</p>	<p>Your response and analysis of the book should be written on the opposite side of the (same) page. For the RESPONSE column, you have several ways to respond to a text, but you only need to use one way.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">*Write about the symbolism that Hawthorne is using.* Write about the themes being developed* Raise questions about the beliefs and values implied in the text* Give your personal reactions to the passage* Discuss the words, ideas, or actions of the author or a character* Tell what it reminds you of from your own experiences* Write about what it makes you think or feel* Argue with or speak to the character or author <p>Responses should be approximately 60 words in length.</p>

Your journals will be collected on the second day of class.

If you have ANY questions over the summer, please text me!

**Mrs. Sperry
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