

Summer Assignments for Advanced Placement English Language and Composition

Woodland High School

Instructor: Ms. Scott

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Room 115

DUE: August 4th by 11:59pm (First Day of School)

I. The Text: *The Scarlet Letter* by Nathaniel Hawthorne (Read the directions carefully! Follow them to the letter!)

II. The Responses/Reactions (your answers will be used in Socratic Seminar): While reading *The Scarlet Letter*, you are going to respond or react to the text's eight sections as established below. Each response should be a response/reaction—**not a plot summary**—of **at least 100 words in which you provide at least one piece of textual evidence** to support your reaction. Your response should either address your reaction to an event or events, a character's actions, thoughts, or spoken words, or some other concept from the section such as theme, motif, archetype, etc. **No credit will be given for plot summaries.** Textual evidence should follow MLA format (quotations with page numbers). Delve deeply into the text and have fun!

Before beginning the book, you need to know that "The Custom House—Introductory" explains how the narrator came to know about the scarlet letter: he worked in The Custom House and discovered the scarlet letter in a box packed away in the building. He began to investigate. *The Scarlet Letter* is his story of what he discovered. **You do not have to read this part of the book** although reading it would add to your understanding.

The eight (8) sections of reading will be composed of three chapters each as outlined below.

Skip the section "The Custom House—Introductory"

Section 1: Chapters 1-3

Section 5: Chapters 13-15

Section 2: Chapters 4-6

Section 6: Chapters 16-18

Section 3: Chapters 7-9

Section 7: Chapters 19-21

Section 4: Chapter 10-12

Section 8: Chapters 22-24

Your grade will be based on the total number of responses you submit out of the required eight (8) and the quality/content of your responses. Word of caution: I read *Sparks Notes*, *Pink Monkey*, *Cliff Notes*, *enotes*, etc. **DO NOT MAKE THAT MISTAKE!** Please review the county and school academic integrity/honesty policies.

This book was written in the mid 1800's, and Hawthorne is very descriptive. You may find some of the language and syntax (arrangement) challenging. Use a dictionary as needed—increasing your vocabulary strength as you read. Read and re-read. Stick with it!!!

Response/Reaction Submission Method: It is strongly recommended that you type your responses in *Microsoft Word* or on *Google Drive* as you are working on the assignment in order to prevent loss of information along the way. **When finished with all thirty (8) responses, and after REVISING AND EDITING, you will submit to google classroom on the first day of school.**

III. The AP-level Reading Comprehension Test: The first or second day of school we will have an **AP-level test** (analytical in nature) on *The Scarlet Letter*. You are strongly encouraged to keep notes of the main characters, the conflicts, the complications, the resolution, the themes, the motifs, etc. that you see in the book.

IV. The Memoir and Essay: This assignment is due the third week of school—August 20th For the AP Language Non-fiction requirements of the course, students are to read a **memoir/autobiography** about a significant author, politician, world leader, religious leader, intellectual, social activist, philosopher, scientist, inventor, inspirational person, etc. Please note that this is a book that the author has written about his/her own life...it is not a biography written by someone else about a certain other person. The work should be 150 plus pages. **I must approve your memoir:** Once you have decided who your person/subject will be, you **MUST email the title of the work to me to Latrese.scott@henry.k12.ga.us for approval.** Please note that this is a book that the author has written about his/her own life...it is not a biography written by someone else about a certain other person. **Approval required to receive credit!**

Be prepared on the first day of school with the title and the name of the author you have chosen for the memoir. YOU MUST HAVE YOUR MEMOIR APPROVED BEFORE YOU BEGIN READING!

For this non-fiction work, write an essay responding to the autobiography/memoir using the following guidelines.

Outline for the physical structure of the response essay:

MUST BE MLA FORMATTED

1) Introduction

- a) Identify the title and author.
- b) Present the context for the work—introduce the author of the autobiography/memoir and his/her significance in society.
- c) Present what drew you to select this person.

2) Body of Paper

Section 1

- a) Write two or three paragraphs in which you summarize the highlights of the text.
- b) Write your own autobiography in which you compare or contrast events in your life with those of the person whose autobiography or memoir you read.

Section 2

- c) Share your conclusions about the person whose autobiography/memoir you read.
- d) Share any life lessons you may have concluded from this text.

3) Conclusion

PLEASE READ THIS PART CAREFULLY BEFORE BEGINNING TO WRITE YOUR PAPER:

Paper must be MLA formatted:

1" margins on all four sides

Header and Heading

Times New Roman 12-point regular font

Double-spaced

NO extra space between paragraphs

FOR HELP: Go to my webpage for detailed instructions OR to Perdue OWL: owl.english.purdue.edu/sitemap

MLA formatting is part of your grade. Contact me if you need help!

V. Special Assignment: Parents email me at latrese.scott@henry.k12.ga.us to establish contact. This assignment is worth 5 bonus points for your student—10 bonus points if each parent emails me!

SPECIAL NOTE: This is a college level class. Your work ethic and the quality of your work should reflect that of the collegiate level. **Late MAJOR work will be accepted with a 20% deduction per day late beginning with this summer assignment. Be responsible. Start early in the summer on your readings and writings.** These assignments will be your first three quiz grades in the class. Please begin the year on the right foot. We will consistently revisit *The Scarlet Letter* and the Memoir during our studies throughout the school year. If you have any informed questions regarding the late policy, please email Ms. Scott. Be patient; I will respond to your email.

IN A NUTSHELL:

I. *The Scarlet Letter*-Due: August 4th

1. Read: *The Scarlet Letter* in its entirety except for "The Custom House—Introductory" (unless you choose to read the introduction for deeper understanding).
2. Develop a response/reaction for the eight sections as outlined in the appropriate section.

II. The memoir of your choice. Due: August 20th

1. Select an appropriate memoir.
2. Submit the title to me for approval via email.
3. Read the memoir.
4. Complete the essay following the guidelines provided.
5. Submit your hard copy on August 20th (third week of school).

Students,

You have not put forth your best effort until you have contacted me for clarification where there is a lack of understanding. Email me at latrese.scott@henry.k12.ga.us. I want to hear from you—the students—with your informed questions!

Thank you, in advance, for your enthusiasm for excellence in the AP Language and Composition course and we look forward to a great year!!!

HAPPY READING AND LEARNING!