

AP English: Literature and Composition – Mr. Hayden (Summer Assignment)

Due Date: MONDAY AUGUST 14TH, 2017

Required Reading: *The Winter of our Discontent* by John Steinbeck: reading response journal
Death of a Salesman by Arthur Miller: reading response journal
A selection of poetry: 10 specific responses

You may checkout the books from the public library or purchase new or used texts.

Poetry packet: A packet of 25 poems is available at Mr. Hayden's website. Please make notes on the poems and SAVE and BRING the packet for use in class during the next school year. <https://sites.google.com/a/clovisusd.k12.ca.us/haydenaplit/>

Being familiar with a litany of classic works is critical to passing the AP Literature test. Although we will read eight pieces of literature through the year, the more you've read, the more you have to draw from when answering the third Free Response Question. Additionally, there is no substitute for reading. My best writers are students who have read A LOT! The following link provides the titles identified on the AP Literature test since 1971. <http://mseffie.com/AP/APtitles.html>

Familiarize yourself with poetry; usually one-third of the AP test is on poetry, so the more you become accustomed to reading and thinking about poems, you may wish to buy one or more of the following: *Sound and Sense* edited by Laurence Perrine, *The Voice That Is Great Within Us* edited by Hayden Carruth.

Reading Response Journals: As you read, keep a reading response journal. All entries need to be typed. Each entry should be at least one good paragraph in length. Be prepared to share your journals with the members of your class.

Each set of responses needs to be separate as we will work with the play, the novel, and the poetry at different times--so please complete them as three separate assignments even though you will turn them all in that first day of class. All reading response journals and essay must be typed--no covers or notebooks please.

1. **Death of a Salesman:** The play is divided into two acts. Write three (3) entries per act=6 entries (25 points). Use each kind of response (analytical or passage) at least three (3) times. (25 points)

A. Write an analytical response that discusses theme, irony, foreshadowing, symbols, character development, writing style, recurring events, etc. (No, not all of them at once! Choose one or two per entry.) Think about what you are reading and analyze its significance, its effectiveness.

B. Find a meaningful quote or passage. Copy the passage and the page # and explain the importance/significance of the passage.

2. **The Winter of our Discontent:** Write one journal entry for every three (3) chapters (One for chapters 1-3, one for 4-6 and so on). Because there are 22 chapters, I'll need an additional entry for the last chapter. That's a total of 8 journal entries. Complete an even number of A and B responses--as explained previously for *Death of a Salesman*--for each of the sections explained above. (25 points)

3. **Poetry:** Read the poetry assignment and the poems. Select poems for each response. Use as many different poems as you can. (25 points)

4. **Essay:** After you have completed all of the above assignments, write a 2-3 page essay (MLA format) using the prompt below. (50 points)

In *The Writing of Fiction* (1925), novelist Edith Wharton states the following:

At every stage in the progress of his tale the novelist must rely on what may be called the illuminating incident to reveal and emphasize the inner meaning of each situation. Illuminating incidents are the magic casements of fiction, its vistas on infinity.

Using *Death of a Salesman* OR *The Winter of our Discontent*, write a well-organized essay in which you describe an "illuminating" episode or moment and explain how it functions as a "casement," a window that opens onto the meaning of the work as a whole. Be sure to provide textual evidence to validate your position. Avoid mere plot summary.

Poetry Assignment 2017

Read through the suggestions for understanding poetry to think of different ways to understand the poems. Your responses to each of the following should be as thorough as you can make them. Be sure to include the title of the poem and the name of the poet. Be sure your responses reveal the depth and breadth of your thoughts. **USE AS A DIFFERENT POEM FOR EVERY RESPONSE.** In addition, be thoughtful about the poem you choose to answer each question. Some poems work better than others for certain questions. Remember to treat this as a separate assignment because we will be working with the novel, the play and the poetry separately. All responses should be typed.

1. Explain the relevance of one poem to a contemporary/current event.
2. For one poem, discuss the dramatic situation: Who is speaking? To whom? What is the occasion? What is the setting?
3. Find a poem, and explain the imagery the poet uses. (Imagery is what you see, hear, smell, taste, touch; in other words, what you respond to with your 5 senses—pictures, sounds, etc.)
4. Summarize one poem.
5. Explain what you find particularly confusing about one poem.
6. Draw one poem. Use a blank sheet of paper (8 1/2" by 11"), and draw what you see happening in the poem. Use colors, symbols, etc. *Sloppy, haphazardly produced work that looks like something you made in kindergarten will receive a low grade :-/*
7. Explain the significance of one of the titles. Why is it appropriate? What does it add to the meaning of the poem?
8. Find a poem that is an extended metaphor. Explain what the metaphor is. How does it fit the idea of the poem?
9. Select a poem that contains examples of *symbolism*? What is the meaning of the symbols you have identified? To what end are symbols used here?
10. Select one poem that you liked and explain what you found interesting about the poem.

Packet Requirements

I'm going to be specific on HOW you turn in your summer homework packet. There should be four separate assignments:

- *The Winter of our Discontent* – Journal Entries
- *Death of a Salesman* – Journal Entries
- 10 Poetry Responses
- 2-3 page AP Literature Free Response Essay

1. Place your name on EACH assignment
2. Staple each assignment separately.
3. Paper clip (or binder clip) all of the assignments together.
4. Place them in a manila envelope or folder.
5. Turn them in to the Administration Office on **MONDAY AUGUST 14, 2017**

Feel free to email me if you have any questions at chadhayden@cusd.com . Have a great summer!!

Mr. Hayden