

Identity Maps and Bookcards for Literature Full Explanations

For use with the NAHS 9th Grade Reading Lists

IDENTITY MAP

An identity map illustrates how people play different roles in life. The most dynamic characters in a text, usually the protagonists, have many layers to their identity and by creating a graphic organizer or identity map; you truly understand them and the deeper meanings of the text. In general, in an identity map, you label the different facets of a person's identity and then assign descriptive adjectives to those identity labels. Please see below for a basic example; yours will require more. For all texts that have identity maps assigned to them on this list, you as the reader must complete the following:

1. Create an identity map for the main character with at least five identity labels. Provide five descriptive paragraphs, one for each label.
2. Create your own personal identity map with at least five identity labels and five descriptive paragraphs, one for each label.
3. Be prepared for a Socratic seminar on identity, theme, dynamic character analysis, culture, etc.

Bookcards for Literature

The purpose of constructing bookcards on novels and plays is to give each student a complete record of the individual works that are covered. Through research and close examination of each work, the student has an intimate knowledge of the piece and its place in the history. An added advantage is that students will have a comprehensive study guide at his or her disposal in preparation for tests, exams, and also for future English courses.

The cards to be used are 5x8 in size. Write on one side, using blue or black ink—you may complete a sentence or two on the back should you need the room.

Pictures and symbolic representations are encouraged where appropriate, and a cover card with a creative scene and the title on one side and your name, the due date, and class period on the other. Number the cards with the section as the numerator and the number in the section as the denominator. For Setting: 2/1, 2/2, 2/3 ... For Themes: 5/1, 5/2, 5/3 ...

I. Authorial Background Cards (1 to 2 cards)—10 points

The full history of the author including some books and plays authored. What is going on in the author's life at the time? What makes him or her inspired to write

the work?

II. Setting—Historical Period and Country Cards (1 to 3 Cards)—10 points

Place the work in the right country during the right historical period at the time it was written. Then be sure to explain how that is different or the same for when the text is set. Be descriptive in explaining the time and place. What is its significance to the work or not? Explain milieu—customs of the area—culture.

III. Characters (several)—10 points

The protagonist should have a card of his or her own showing development, if any. Use quotations to describe each character while providing a description for primary and important secondary characters as well. Explain character motivation and purpose to the text. Try using TOLDS to guide you.

T—what does the character Think?

O—what do Others think about the character?

L—If described, what does the character Look like?

D—What does the character Do?

S—What does the character Say? Provide a quote that identifies him well.

IV. Themes (2 to 3 cards)—20 points

In your analysis of the work, you should have discovered the major themes of the book. I'm expecting an identification of each, explanation of how it is developed, and a thesis statement that could evolve into a paper topic. No fewer than three themes per work.

V. Plot Summary (several--but don't go overboard)—10 points

This is one of those times that you can write a plot summary and be rewarded for it. I suggest you organize your writing according to chapters or acts, or by the 5 stages of plot development, depending on the text. It should be detailed but no more than 10 cards for this section. Stick to the basics and important scenes. Later, this will help you remember the text.

VI. Literary Devices Unique to the work (several)—20 points

Any particular literary techniques used including symbolism, allusions, metaphor, simile, motif etc. Give examples from the text and explain their importance to structure, setting, characters, or themes of the work.

VII. Significant Passage—20 points

Choose 3 passages or quotations from the book that "STRIKE" you as memorable or outstanding. Cite the page, speaker, and circumstances. Then, explain why it is significant to you and relate its significance to the work as

a whole.

100pts—Comprehension Grade

Do not misuse the Internet. You will be given a zero for plagiarism!

********Typing or writing on dark colored cards will result in a zero.***