

AP Literature and Composition - Summer Assignment



Welcome to Advanced Placement English Literature and Composition! This will be a challenging and rewarding class that will demand rigorous work from students -- including a high level of critical thinking, a wide variety of reading in numerous genres, and sophisticated analytical writing in various formats. The course will consist of intensive preparation for the Advanced Placement English Literature and Composition Exam in May 2021, and a survey of American, British, and world literature.

In order to prepare for the rigorous year ahead, you will have the following summer assignments. Please find all the details on the following pages:

1. **Read Ralph Ellison's *Invisible Man***
 2. **Create an AP Lit Reference Guide and learn the literary techniques required for AP Lit**
-



AP Literature Summer Assignment #1

Read Ralph Ellison's *Invisible Man*

This summer reading assignment will prepare students for the school year by serving as a foundational text and introducing integral skills and conceptual understandings, which will be addressed throughout the year and assessed on the AP Exam.

Introduction Video: Please watch the 3 min video: [An Introduction to Ralph Ellison](#).

There are many additional informative videos on the author and novel: [Ralph Ellison An American Journey](#)

Reading at an AP level: You will be asked to read and analyze to a far greater level than you have before. Every year we our graduating AP students consistently recommend the following best practices from their experience:

1. Don't procrastinate.
2. Read closely.
3. Re-read important passages. Some successful AP students read twice: a first, quick reading for the storyline followed with a second, thorough re-reading to better understand nuance and complexity.
4. Take notes focusing on significance and meaning.

While note taking can be a highly personal preference, we strongly recommend that you put strong effort into both close, critical reading and strong note taking. You will learn to adjust to suit your individual needs as you become more practiced and experienced during the school year.

Graded Assessments:

- Notes will **NOT** be collected and graded for the summer reading.
 - You will have graded **Reading Assessments** to evaluate the rigor of your skills and effort.
-

To assist you in your close reading and understanding, we have outlined some of the literary elements that you should pay attention to in Ralph Ellison's *Invisible Man*.

Historical Allusions:

- Marcus Garvey
- Booker T. Washington
- Tuskegee Institute
- W.E.B. DuBois
- Emerson
- Great Migration
- Harlem
- Communist Party

Literary Allusions:

- Melville (epigraph)
- TS Elliot (epigraph)
- *Benito Cereno*
- *The Odyssey*
- *Huck Finn*
- *Heart of Darkness*
- *Notes From the Underground*
- *Brer Rabbit*

Motifs:

- sight / blindness
- visibility / invisibility
- black / white
- segregation / integration
- North / South
- light / dark

Symbols:

- the Golden Day
- Supercargo
- the briefcase
- the link of the chain
- the Sambo doll
- Mary's bank
- Brother Jack's glass eye
- paint

Tips and suggestions:

- Do not underestimate the complexity and challenge of this literary work or the standards of the course.
- You will most likely need to improve your effort and effectiveness at close reading and analysis.
- Go beyond simply paying attention to plot.
- Know the difference between a motif, thematic concept, and thematic statement.
- AP level analysis should connect how the elements contribute to larger thematic messages as well as the overall meaning of the work.

AP Literature Summer Assignment #2: Create an AP Lit Reference Guide to Learn the AP Literary Techniques

We will need to be able to utilize these devices and techniques in AP level literary analysis. For now, you first need to learn the definition and recognize examples. Only then can we build on developing skills in analyzing their effect, impact, and how they contribute to thematic meaning. Begin with this task, and we will learn a lot more once together in class.

Assignment: Create your own AP Lit Reference Guide for all of the terms listed below. You should consider definitions, explanations, and examples as appropriate. Sometimes definitions by themselves are insufficient if you do not understand how the devices are used. Some may be familiar and require minimal explanation, while others may require a more thorough treatment. Be careful of those techniques that you believe you already know, but don't know as well as you think you do. You may also want to include links to sources with more information. Through the school year, you will continue to use and develop this document.

Format: Digital document with MLA header -- but the rest of the document can be in any format.

Team Work: You may work with partners or in groups, but you each need to have a digital copy to submit on the first day of school. Include all participants' names in the MLA header. Keep in mind that splitting up the work may help to create and finish the reference guide, but it is not the same as LEARNING the material. Take full advantage of multiple brains by working together to learn.

Discussion and Review: You should bring your follow-up and clarification questions to class. In September, we will have an opportunity to address your questions and learn in more depth. But make no mistake, we will immediately start to move very fast. The better you prepare this summer regarding definition, recognition, and demonstration of these literary techniques, the less painful the learning curve will be.

Submissions and Assessments:

- On the first day of class you will be required to submit a copy of your reference guide.
- In the initial weeks of school, you will have specific assessments requiring you to demonstrate your understanding of these literary techniques. The assessments may focus on certain categories, and will be announced in advance. We will discuss these assessments further when we meet in class, but you can expect the following:
 - Assessment may include multiple choice, short answers, and/or verbal explanations.
 - You may be asked to identify terms and techniques in examples
 - You may be asked to justify or support your explanations.

Website Resources: Always question the internet! Check MULTIPLE sources, consider their reliability, and synthesize different explanations. Examples found on the web may or may not be the best choices, so use good judgment. Here are some generally reliable sources based on my experience:

- [Litcharts.com Literary Devices and Terms - Definitions and Examples](#)
- [Shmoop Literature Glossary - AB](#)
- [Masterclass.com 22 Essential Literary Devices](#)
- [Masterclass.com Poetry 101](#)
- [PoetryFoundation.org Glossary of Poetic Terms](#)
- [Academy of American Poets - Glossary of Poetic Term](#)

Literary Terms and Techniques

1. Story Structure

2. Title (also know types of titles and when to underline, italicize, or use quotation marks)
3. Setting
4. Plot
5. Prologue
6. Exposition
7. Rising action
8. Plot Conflict (also under characterization)
9. Climax
10. Falling action
11. Resolution / Denouement
12. Epilogue
13. Chronological vs non-linear (time sequence)
14. Flashbacks and flashforwards

15. Point of View / Narrative Perspective / Narrative Voice

16. Narration / Narrator / speaker
17. First-person
18. Second-person
19. Third-person
20. Third-person limited
21. Third-person omniscient
22. Bias, reliability, and unreliability
23. Shifts in perspective / alternating points of view
24. Stream of Consciousness
25. Digression

26. Character / Characterization

27. Characteristics / traits / attributes
28. Names
29. Dialogue / Words
30. Indirect dialogue
31. Action
32. Thought
33. Interior monologue
34. Intent / motive / motivation
35. Emotions / Feelings
36. Relationships
37. Interaction
38. Conflict (also under plot)
39. Internal Conflict

40. External Conflict
41. Character vs. Self
42. Character vs. Character
43. Character vs. Nature
44. Character vs. Supernatural
45. Character vs. Technology
46. Character vs. Society
47. Development / transformation / growth
48. Protagonist
49. Antagonist
50. Foil

51. Style

52. Tone - At this point simply be clear on what tone is and what are different examples. We will focus on tone A LOT more during the year, learning how tone is created and how it contributes to meaning.
53. Mood / atmosphere
54. Shifts in tone or mood
55. Diction
56. Word Choice

57. Meaning

58. Interpretation
59. Motif
60. Central Idea
61. Theme
62. Thematic Concept
63. Thematic Statement
64. Message
65. Lesson / Moral

66. Schemes / Patterns (structural in nature)

67. Repetition
68. Parallelism
69. Anaphora
70. Epistrophe
71. Inversion (in word, phrase, sentence patterns).
72. Anastrophe
73. Asyndeton
74. Polysyndeton

Schemes / Patterns (sound in nature)

- 75. Alliteration
- 76. Assonance
- 77. Consonance
- 78. Cacophony
- 79. Euphony
- 80. Onomatopoeia

81. Imagery

- 82. Visual imagery
- 83. Auditory imagery
- 84. Olfactory imagery
- 85. Tactile imagery
- 86. Kinesthetic imagery
- 87. Gustatory imagery
- 88. Synesthesia (also spelled Synaesthesia)

89. Figurative Language / Tropes

- 90. Denotation
- 91. Connotation
- 92. Symbol / Symbolism
- 93. Simile
- 94. Metaphor
- 95. Metaphor, explicit
- 96. Metaphor, implied
- 97. Metaphor, extended
- 98. Metonymy
- 99. Synecdoche
- 100. Archetype
- 101. Apostrophe
- 102. Euphemism
- 103. Idioms
- 104. Hyperbole
- 105. Oxymoron
- 106. Personification
- 107. Pathetic Fallacy
- 108. Paradox
- 109. Pun

110. Additional Figures of Speech and Devices

- 111. Description / Selection of Detail
- 112. Transitions / shifts (in tone, mood, perspective, characterization, etc.)
- 113. Context
- 114. Implication
- 115. Inference

- 116. Juxtaposition
- 117. Compare / comparison
- 118. Contrast
- 119. Contradict / contradiction
- 120. Antithesis
- 121. Allusion
- 122. Irony
- 123. Verbal irony
- 124. Situational irony
- 125. Dramatic irony
- 126. Satire
- 127. Sarcasm
- 128. Overstatement
- 129. Understatement
- 130. Litotes
- 131. Aphorism
- 132. Analogy
- 133. Anecdote
- 134. Epiphany

135. Plays / Dramas (the following terms may also apply to other literature as well)

- 136. Act
- 137. Scene
- 138. Soliloquy
- 139. Monologue
- 140. Aside
- 141. Tragedy
- 142. Tragic hero
- 143. Tragic flaw / Hamartia
- 144. Hubris
- 145. Catharsis
- 146. Deus Ex Machina

147. Poetry (devices related to Poetry)

- 148. Meter
- 149. Poetic Foot
- 150. Stanza
- 151. Tercet
- 152. Quatrain
- 153. Sestet
- 154. Octave
- 155. Rhythm
- 156. Rhyme
- 157. End Rhyme
- 158. Rhyme Scheme

- 159. Internal Rhyme
- 160. Slant Rhyme / near rhyme / imperfect rhyme
- 161. Couplet
- 162. Heroic Couplet
- 163. End-Stopped Line
- 164. Enjambment
- 165. Iambic Pentameter
- 166. Refrain
- 167. **Poetic Forms** - primarily defined by structure (but may also have rules of purpose or topic)
 - 168. Blank Verse
 - 169. Rhymed Poem
 - 170. Free Verse
 - 171. Sonnet - Petrarchan or Italian
 - 172. Sonnet - Shakespearean, English, or Elizabethan

- 173. Villanelle
- 174. Haiku
- 175. Tanka

Poetic Forms - defined by purpose or topic (but may also have structural rules)

- 176. Narrative
- 177. Epic
- 178. Ballad
- 179. Dramatic Monologue
- 180. Elegy
- 181. Dirge
- 182. Ekphrasis
- 183. Lyric
- 184. Ode
- 185. Pastoral
- 186. Aubade

See you in September!



SOON SCHOOL WILL START. NO MORE FREEDOM, NO MORE LONG DAYS OUTSIDE, NO MORE FUN.

