

Advanced Placement English Literature and Composition
2011 Summer Reading Assignment

Albee, Edward	<i>Who's Afraid of Virginia Woolf?</i>
DeLillo, Don	<i>White Noise</i>
Heller, Joseph	<i>Catch-22</i>
Kesey, Ken	<i>One Flew Over the Cuckoo's Nest</i>
O'Neill, Eugene	<i>Long Day's Journey Into Night</i>

You are required to read the above five selections and maintain a reader's log that you will use for the basis of class discussions, group presentations and essay responses.

Please use the concepts below as a guide only. You need not address all questions for each selection. All reader's logs will be collected the first day of school and returned to you as soon as possible. It is important to *interact with the texts*. Include your opinions and interpretations of themes, language, metaphors and other devices. Do not waste time on plot summary. Though I will look at your notes when you submit them to me, please understand that they are mostly for your benefit, as we will begin our year of study with intensive discussion of these five titles.

THEME

- How the action, characters and conflicts contribute to theme
- How conflicts are resolved
- How literary devices (such as foreshadowing, suspense or irony) are used to enhance theme
- How themes demonstrate the author's philosophy on life (comments on humanity, the world, human nature)

LANGUAGE

- How the author uses language to enhance themes
- How specific instances of diction, sentence structure, tone and imagery contribute to the author's use of language

CHARACTERS

- How characters' actions, thoughts or experiences suggest ideas on life or human nature
- How the character develops or dissembles and how this action affects the theme(s)
- How the hero v. villain tradition is portrayed in the characters

LITERARY DEVICES/TERMS

- How the point of view (first or third person) invoked affects the story
- How variations in narrative style create advantages and disadvantages for the reader
- How setting is used to enhance the themes of the work
- How comedy is used in the work
- How specific devices (hyperbole, understatement, innuendo, oxymoron, paradox, pun) are used to enhance the work

If you have any questions, feel free to e-mail ptalarico@hpreg.org. I will respond as soon as I can. Enjoy your summer! I look forward to working with you in the fall.

--Mr. Talarico