



PEAC ENGLISH 9 SUMMER READING 2015

Welcome to PEAC English 9! We're delighted you have chosen to take on the challenge of this exciting and rewarding academic program. The PEAC English 9 course will build on material from previous years to produce literate and thoughtful communicators.

Throughout the upcoming year, you will continue to refine skills in writing through the close study of language and literature. This summer reading assignment is meant to encourage students to read and appreciate classic and contemporary literary works, and explore the writer's craft. There are **two steps** to your assignment, and while they will take some time and effort, we hope you will find the experience intellectually stimulating and engaging. **Be sure to read the directions below very carefully; you are expected to follow them exactly.** Feel free to email me if you have any questions or Ms. Betty Nataro, Director of Academy and PEAC Scholars.

STEP 1 – SELECT ONE OF THE FOLLOWING LITERARY WORKS

The following books should be available at local libraries or accessible elsewhere.

Jane Eyre – Charlotte Bronte

Pride and Prejudice – Jane Austen

Oliver Twist – Charles Dickens

The Book Thief – Marcus Zusak

The Bean Trees – Barbara Kingsolver

Childhood's End – Arthur C. Clark

Along This Way: The Autobiography of James Weldon Johnson – James Weldon Johnson

This Side of Paradise – F. Scott Fitzgerald

Frankenstein – Mary Shelley

As you read your selected book, use post-its or create a list of passages. Select passages you encounter that are particularly important, provocative, dramatic, surprising, even disturbing. The passages selected must be representative of the entire book. Do not select passages from only one part of the book. The passages selected must be at least 3 sentences in length.

From your complete list of passages, choose **four** passages you have identified and complete the following for each:

1. Retype the passage with parenthetical documentation.
2. Write a paragraph explaining how the passage "fits" into the book thus far. Does the passage add to the character development, the plot, or a theme?
3. Write a second paragraph discussing your reaction to the passage as a reader. Make me understand **WHY** you have selected the passage. To generate responses, you can consider the following suggested prompts or questions:
 - Why does the passage impress, intrigue, horrify or puzzle you?
 - Do you find the author's use of language appealing or powerful? Does the passage jump off the page as a great descriptive passage?
 - Does it prompt a strong response from you as you read it? Does it present itself as so well crafted that you love the sound of it? Is the language beautiful, descriptive, graphic?
 - Is it particularly meaningful? Is it a high point in the book?
 - Do you find yourself in agreement/disagreement with the ideas expressed?

- Does the passage remind you of a situation you have experienced as well?
- Does the passage make you laugh out loud or make you melancholy or make you something else?
- Does the author or the character raise intriguing questions or issues?
- Does the passage challenge or expand your thinking?

You are not limited to the above list, nor do I expect you to answer all of the above. But your responses to the passages should clearly explain to me why these passages mean something to you, why these passages caught your attention.

STEP 2 – THE BIG PICTURE

Once you have completed the book, consider **ALL** the passages, not just the ones used in completing the response paragraphs. From your complete list, select the one passage (not necessarily one for which you wrote responses) you feel captures the true meaning of the book for you, the reader. This will be the “Quote of the Book.” Think of this as the one passage that you would absolutely want saved should the book ever be lost or destroyed.

Use the Quote of the Book to write a one to two paragraph response exploring what value, besides entertainment this book has. Include in this analysis an explanation of exactly **HOW** this passage is the one perfect quote from the book. Consider the author’s use of style and technique. Also explore whether the list of passages you selected throughout the reading contributed to your selection of this quote and/or provided a better understanding of the book, its themes, and/or use of imagery or motifs.

STEP 3 – PUTTING IT ALL TOGETHER

This assignment is due on the first day of school, August 31, 2015.

This assignment must be double-spaced and typed in a formal size 12 font (such as Times New Roman).

Use 1-inch margins for the top, bottom, and sides.

Number the pages.

The first page should be a cover page with the title of the book, the name of the author and your full name.

The last page should be a Works Cited for the book used.

Use the following format to write the works cited and be sure to use a hanging indent:

Last name, First name. Title of Book. City of Publication: Publisher, Year of Publication.

IMPORTANT! The reflections in the responses for this assignment are to be your ideas and conclusions. Outside sources are not permitted.

IN ADDITION to the hard copy you will submit on the first day of school, you must have an electronic copy of your assignment on the first day of school. This may be on a flash drive or as an email attachment to yourself.

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