WHS English 11 AP Language and Composition Summer Reading Assignment 2019

Congratulations! You are officially an AP Language and Composition student. You should prepare yourself for a challenging and rewarding year.

Our first project together will be, of course, the summer reading assignment. First, you must read the novel required by all juniors enrolled in AP Language and Composition course. After completing a thorough and analytical reading of the text, you will be required to complete the formal assignments described below. While students may share ideas as they discuss the novels, all work must be an original production by each student. Please keep in mind that these assignments are **required in order to remain in good standing in the AP program and are due September 9, 2019.**

Plagiarism is unacceptable and will result in an E with not opportunities for redo. The internet is not required for any part of this project.

Please let me know if you have any questions. Feel free to email me at any time over the summer with questions or comments. I am available via email at [kclemmens@bcps.org](mailto:kclemmens@bcps.org)

-Ms. Clemmens

**Required Readings:**

1. **Mortimer J. Adler’s article “How to Mark a Book,” Attached**
2. **Wes Moore’s *The Other Wes Moore: One Name, Two Fates.*** The book can be checked out from a Baltimore County Public library or Woodlawn High School’s English Department (available in the guidance office over the summer or online through the Woodlawn High School’s library system destiny.bcps.org. NOTE: do NOT check it out, as no one can read it and listen to it if one person checks it out!) ***Assessments on this book will be given the week we return to school.***
3. **2 Poems:**
   - “Between Walls” by William Carlos Williams
   - “Harlem” by Langston Hughes

**ALL Assignments Due: September 9, 2019**

**Assignment 1:** Before beginning the book, read Mortimer J. Adler’s article “How to Mark a Book.” Annotate *The Other Wes Moore* as you read. If you have borrowed the book, use post-it notes and stick them inside the book. See the attached annotation guidelines. This will be the first text studied in class; please have the reading and annotations completed prior to the first day of school, as the annotations will be one of your first grades for the course.

**Annotation Guidelines-**
Annotating is the act of taking notes within the text (marginal or Post-It notes) as you read. It involves marking the text with **substantive** commentary regarding the author’s content and/or style. Annotations should not be limited to identifying a literary element; annotation **must explain the significance of the technique or element and its contribution to the unit’s focus.**

**Suggested areas of focus**
Characterization: What techniques are used to develop the characters?
Thematic development: What are the major themes? How are they developed? How are they related?
Literary devices such as symbolism, motifs, foreshadowing
Technical elements: diction, detail, syntax, point of view, organization of selected passages
Structure: How does the format of the text convey meaning?
How the ending appropriately concludes the work

Methods
Students may use any of the following methods:
Brackets (on your own copy only)
Highlighting (on your own copy only)
Underlining (on your own copy only)
Post-It Notes
Journals

Students may not use:
Random pieces of paper

Notes should be organized, legible, and clearly point to which passages are being analyzed. I can only grade what I can understand. When in doubt, label.

Assignment 2: Poetry Connections

Read and annotate “Between Walls” and “Harlem” and explore connections you see between the poems and The Other Wes Moore.

Poem Annotations:

- Mark up the poem. What is the subject? What is the tone? (author's attitude toward the subject). How does the author create the tone (diction, syntax, form, figurative language, etc.)? What mood does it create for the reader? Highlight/underline important words and phrases and analyze the poem in the margins.

Essay:

Write an essay in which you explore the connection between the themes in The Other Wes Moore, “Between Walls,” and “Harlem.”

Your essay should use specific textual evidence from each of the three texts to show how the theme in each text is developed and how the themes of all three texts connect to one another.

The essay should be between 750-1000 typed words (3-4 pages, double spaced.)

The essay should include:

✓ an introduction
✓ thesis statement
✓ body paragraphs that each begin with a topic sentence
✓ textual evidence
✓ original analysis of themes and connections among the texts
✓ a conclusion