

**AP English Literature and Composition**

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Room 202

Paperback Text: The Norton Introduction to Literature, Kelly J. Mays, Ed. (11th edition, 2014)

ISBN-13: 978-0-393-92339-1

\*All four texts below can be purchased as paperbacks. Since I will be teaching annotation and the seminar model, students will need to write in their books.

**Summer Assignments**

*The Great Gatsby*, F. S. Fitzgerald

Five Paragraph Essay: The Assessment will be based on the following:

Prompt: In a well-developed essay, describe the dysfunction/corruption that is evident in *Gatsby*. As a writer, you can choose characters and/or events to develop the prompt.

- Introduction that leads into a thesis statement
- Three Body paragraphs that cite (parenthetical), from the book evidence of your logic/position. EACH Body paragraph should be a minimal of seven sentences in length; however, the objective is a fully develop idea each and every time.
- Conclusion

*Far from the Madding Crowd*, Thomas Hardy

**Poetic Device Assignment:** This is a love story that shows how a man silently loves a woman who doesn't know he exists. Once she does, he is overlooked as just her "hired hand." In human nature, we learn that love can be hurtful and complex. Now, a bit about Hardy. He wanted to be a poet but, ironically, Hardy became famous for his novels. So, YOU will write a poem that can be about any aspect of *Crowd*; not just love. However, the poetic devices that must be used in this poem are many. The criteria are listed below:

1. One line demonstrating personification
2. One line that demonstrates simile or metaphor
3. One line of alliteration
4. One line that demonstrates allusion (Hardy uses allusion extensively in this novel)

5. One direct quote taken “word for word” from the novel that is integrated into your poem. This line would need cited at the end of the line. Ex: “” Probably some one man on an average falls in love with each ordinary woman”” (Hardy 166).

**The poem is to be 10+ lines in length and be creative!**

*Major Barbara*, Bernard Shaw

**Satiric Poem Assignment:** Shaw had a “major” attitude about the social classes. In this play, the class of characters are evident. The assignment for you will be as follows: Each student will report to your parent(s) or guardians for duty. Now, you will volunteer, without payment, to pull weeds for one hour or the designated time that it takes to gather 100 nasty weeds on your parents/guardian property. Once done, you will write an **eight to 12-line** poem that describes the event. Shaw was a master of sarcasm so feel free to use satire and/or humor in your poem. Oh, by the way, your parent/guardian must sign your poem to verify that the “free labor” took place.

*Heart of Darkness*, Joseph Conrad

**Self-Reflection Assignment:** Conrad’s premise is that man will do unspeakable things to gain power and influence which is conveyed in the behavior of key characters in the novel. “In Conrad’s haunting tale, Marlow, a seaman and wanderer, recounts his physical and psychological journey in search of the enigmatic Kurtz” (Ackroyd, *Times*). Write a Self-Reflection about a time or personal event where greed or the need for power/recognition got the best of you. Think of this writing as a polished journal entry; it is not a formal essay. Length is to be one and a half pages that are double spaced. Name, class, and date are to be typed on the left-hand side of the paper!

1. THE WRITTEN ASSIGNMENTS WILL BE DUE ON THE **FIRST** DAY OF CLASS FOR THE 2017-2018 SCHOOL YEAR. FAILURE TO COMPLETE THE REQUIRED ASSIGNMENTS WILL RESULT IN RECEIVING A “0” FOR EACH MISSING ASSIGNMENT.
2. DO NOT PLAGIARIZE-Hardy Poem
3. ALL FOUR BOOKS MUST BE READ
4. THERE WILL BE NO SUBSTITUTE ASSIGNMENT FOR THE DISCUSSION BOARD,