

HOLY CHILD

EDUCATING YOUNG WOMEN OF CONSCIENCE AND ACTION

Summer Reading 10th Grade – British and Postcolonial Literature

Summer Reading

The material below is designed to give you a preview of the work you will do in British and Postcolonial Literature, the 10th grade English course. *Purple Hibiscus* by Chimamanda Ngozi Adichie is your required summer reading. The novel is required reading and provides some context for the themes of the course. It is set in postcolonial Nigeria and examines the impact of Western cultural and religious influences on individuals and society.

In addition, you must read one of the following:

Lord of the Flies William Golding

Pride and Prejudice Jane Austen

Pygmalion George Bernard Shaw

Summer Reading Assignment

I. Annotation

Annotation is an essential part of reading and writing. As you read, please be sure to annotate for basic elements of the story: character, setting, and conflict. If you need a refresher on why and how to annotate, please watch the following video:

<https://youtu.be/YJW8YU1K7-M>

In addition, please annotate for the following topics and themes:

1. Issues of class and class prejudice
2. The role of women in society
3. What it means to be civilized
4. Conflicts between society and individuals
5. Who has power and who is powerless?

Your books will be collected and graded for annotations. See the rubric below.

Annotation Scoring Guide

| ☑✓ + Superior | ✓ Adequate/ Meets Standard | ☐☐✓- Needs Improvement |
|--|--|--|
| Comments show one understands/ comprehends the important things in the text, including, plot/facts ideas, characters, setting, conflicts | Shows understanding of Plot/facts- lack details People/characters-few details | Comments reveal no understanding of what's happening in the book |
| Shows deep thinking about text through, questions and responses to the text | Has a few "deep thinking" questions and comments, is reflective, but not as in depth as a ✓+ | Surfaces level comments only |
| Connects text to feelings and experiences, other texts including, films, books, music, historical or current news events | Some connections text to feelings life / experience, but little connection to other texts | Few connections to text |
| Comments on literary devices or how the author does something; names the devices and/or describes impact of devices on reader | Recognizes literary devices but doesn't name them/ talk about impact of devices | No comments on literary devices or author's craft |
| Vocabulary: figures out key words | Underlines new words- doesn't define them | Little attention to new words |
| Summaries: 2-3 word summaries clear, makes it easy to find important events, characters or turning points | Occasional summaries | No marking of key events, characters or other important elements |

II. Writing Assignment

For one of your summer reading selections, choose an annotation topic and elaborate on how that text relates to that topic. Responses must be a paragraph of 10 lines or more, using MLA formatting.

Additional Materials

With the exception of the summer reading, this material below is entirely optional; however, it may help you prepare for some of the challenging reading that we will have this year.

Geoffrey Chaucer's *Canterbury Tales*

"Overview: The Canterbury Road to Modern England" by Rob Gifford

- <http://www.npr.org/templates/story/story.php?storyId=103045953>
- Description from website: "A five-part NPR series retraces the steps of Geoffrey Chaucer's pilgrims in *The Canterbury Tales* to explore Britain in the early 21st century. It offers a portrait of a changing nation some 600 years after the pilgrims made their colorful journey from London to Canterbury."

- Listen to the audio version of this story. It is more about contemporary Britain than it is about the fourteenth-century England that Chaucer depicts in his writing, but you should find the comparisons between these two moments in time enlightening.

Chaucerian English

- <http://www.bl.uk/learning/langlit/changlang/activities/lang/chaucer/chaucerpage1.html>
- This page from the British Library introduces you to the sounds of Chaucerian English and provides a few exercises to help you translate a passage from Middle into Modern English.
- Don't worry – we'll be reading a modern translation!

An Animated Version of “The Pardoner’s Tale” and “The Wife of Bath’s Tale”

- “The Pardoner’s Tale”:
 - <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=CS8a9FNhkxw>
- “The Wife of Bath’s Tale”:
 - <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=e3cvOm7qStk>
- These short videos recount two of the four tales we will read together in the fall. Consider this just a taste of Chaucer, something to whet your appetite.

Pilgrims and Pilgrimage

- http://www.york.ac.uk/projects/pilgrimage/content/med_liter.html
- This site is a little dull, but it provides a good background on the significance of the pilgrimage in medieval English literature.

William Shakespeare

In Search Of Shakespeare

- https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=4h96ThdV_BM
- The first in a four part PBS video series exploring the life of William Shakespeare. Each episode runs about an hour. The narrator, Michael Wood, is an enthusiastic fan of the Bard. He can tell you nearly everything you need to know about the playwright.

Film Versions of *The Tempest*

- Together in class, we will watch clips of Julie Taymor’s adaptation of *The Tempest* as well as the 2013 Globe Theater production. You may want to watch both over the summer.

Shakespeare by Bill Bryson and *Will of the World* by Stephen Greenblatt

- These two biographies of William Shakespeare are designed for those students who want to delve more deeply into Shakespeare’s life and world. Of the two, Bryson is far more readable.

Shakespeare in Love (rated R), *Elizabeth* (1998), *Elizabeth: The Golden Age* (2007), *The Other Boleyn Girl*

- These films are entertaining stories that will give you a sense of the Elizabethan time period. Please note the R rating for the first film!

Grammar and Vocabulary

Grammar Girl Webcast: Supercharge Your Writing

- <http://www.quickanddirtytips.com/grammar-girl>
- This website provides short, accessible grammar lessons on a variety of topics. See what you can discover.
- Podcasts are also available for those long summer drives.

Merriam-Webster Word of the Day

- <http://www.merriam-webster.com/word-of-the-day/>
- Sign up for the word of the day to develop your vocabulary.
- If one word of the day is not enough, try subscribing to the dictionary.com version of word of the day (<http://dictionary.reference.com/wordoftheday/>)

Purdue University's Online Writing Lab (OWL)

- <https://owl.english.purdue.edu/owl/>
- This is a great resource for all things related to MLA rules, grammar, style, and spelling. Keep this bookmarked in your web browser.