Instructor: Mrs. Bivins

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Classroom Resources
Follow @Mrs_Biv on Twitter for updates

Dear Student:

Congratulations on your course selection of Advanced Placement Language & Composition. You have made a wise yet demanding choice. In this class you will be reading a variety of texts and articles and you will learn how to be critical thinkers and writers. I have high expectations for this class and demand students who are willing to put in the required effort necessary to succeed. My goal is for every student enrolled in the class to take the AP Exam in May, giving you the chance to earn college credit. That requires dedication, enthusiasm, and hard work on both our parts.

This summer you must read the novel *Things Fall Apart* by Chinua Achebe. You can obtain a copy of this novel from the bookstore, however, I recommend that you purchase your own copy. If you purchase your book from a bookstore or online, that gives you the opportunity to highlight and make notes within your pages to help you read more critically. Annotating is a useful tool in this class and will be of great benefit to you. If you have any questions, you can email Mrs. Bivins - at wbivins@tfd215.org or send a Remind message.

You must read the novel and annotate the novel thoroughly. If you checked out a copy from the school or from a library, you can use post-it notes to annotate. You will be completing two assignments for this novel. Be sure to follow all instructions carefully. Both assignments are due at the first day of school. Also the first two weeks of school we will be analyzing the novel together and you will have an exam on the novel.

You must submit both assignments to Google Classroom AND Turnitin.com by 8:25am on the first day of school. Enrollment instruction and information is included in this packet.

Be sure to contact me with any questions throughout the summer. Please do not wait until the week before the assignment is due to ask questions. Manage your time wisely, start and finish early!

Mrs. Bivins

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ASSIGNMENT #1 – Analysis Entries – 35 Points

Directions: You will complete analysis entries for the novel Things Fall Apart. Your entries should be taken from the chapters as you read from beginning to end. If most of your examples are from the beginning of the novel, it will be assumed that you did not read the entire novel. There are SEVEN categories that you will be analyzing for the novel. You must choose at least TWO POINTS listed from each section to respond and analyze. You must have a citation for each point that you choose (2 per section). You will have a total of FOURTEEN CITATIONS when completed. There is an example below for your review. A word document that is already formatted is provided for you on Google Classroom. You are REQUIRED to type your response in the formatted word document.

1. **Reader Response:** Be able to trace your reactions, to ask questions in class, to remind yourself when you find answers to earlier questions. This should help note the writer’s effectiveness.
   **MAKE NOTE OF:**
   - Your reactions/emotional responses (humor, surprise, sadness, anger, frustration, tension, criticism, confusion, etc.)
   - Your questions or lack of understanding or doubts (ask “Why?”)
   - Your revelations (when “things” become clear to you, when you create links between ideas)
   - Similarities to other works (This reminds me of…)
   - Wonderful writing—passages that strike you artistically/aesthetically and why

2. **Speaker:** Think about who the writer is and what he or she NEEDS to communicate. This should help you determine the author’s credibility.
   **MAKE NOTE OF:**
   - Introductory facts (author backgrounds and relationship to the topic, bias, etc.)
   - Ethos—how does the author establish credibility and character on the given topic?
   - Note words and language that indicate the author’s attitude or tone and where it shifts
   - Note when the author directly or indirectly states how he or she feels
   - Observe key lines that stand out as crucial to the author’s argument

3. **Occasion:** Think about what caused the author to write about this topic and whether or not it is a valid reason.
   **MAKE NOTE OF:**
   - The author’s reasons for writing—what is the motivation?
   - Historical, political, and social issues surrounding the topic
   - The author’s personal reasons as well as the greater world influences for the piece
   - Evidence of views characteristic of the time period and culture surrounding the work
   - Descriptions of class judgments, racism, gender biases, stereotypes, etc.

4. **Audience:** Think about what kind of person or people the author intended to view the piece. Is the author able to connect with that audience effectively?
   **MAKE NOTE OF:**
   - Evidence of who the author is trying to reach
   - Where the author directly or indirectly addresses a specific audience
   - Any “call to action” that the author is issuing to the reader
   - Pathos—does the author appeal to your sense emotion through anecdotes and figurative language

5. **Purpose:** Think about the author’s purpose in writing this book and whether or not he or she is effective in that purpose.
   **MAKE NOTE OF:**
   - Specific reasons for writing (informing, persuading, arguing, refuting, exemplifying)
   - Logos—the author’s appeal to reason. Examine how the author makes the reader believe in that purpose.

6. **Subject:** Think about what the book is discussing and whether or not the author shows why this subject matter is important.
   **MAKE NOTE OF:**
   - Elements related to the problem or issue
   - How the author develops or deepens the aspects of the problem or issue
   - How the author shows the complications related to the subject and the implication of it to you, the nation, the world, etc.

7. **Authorial Devices and Structures in the Argument:** Think about the author’s techniques in delivery and how effective the author’s methods are for rhetorical purposes.
   **MAKE NOTE OF:**
   - Changes in point of view/emphasis
   - Crucial language/vocabulary (not just a word that you don’t understand, but one that seems crucial to understanding the argument)
   - Stylistic techniques (irony, satire, humor, exaggeration, repetition/patterns, possible symbols, significant metaphors and other notable literary and rhetorical devices)
   - How the author’s structure of the argument/book influence the reader and relate to the subject, audience, and purpose
ASSIGNMENT #2 - Things Fall Apart Literary Analysis Summer Essay – 80 Points

For your essay on the novel Things Fall Apart, you will be writing a five paragraph literary analysis of character’s growth.

Prompt: Write a literary analysis of Things Fall Apart in which you examine how Achebe uses literary devices to show a character’s change in identity from the beginning of the novel to the end due to the cultural collision caused by the introduction of Western ideas into Ibo culture. Choose only one character for this essay. Be sure to also explain within each paragraph why the use of the literary device is effective in showing the character’s development.

In your essay, analyze
1. How the collision of cultures challenges the character’s sense of identity
2. How the literary device is effective in portraying the character’s change from the beginning of the novel to the end

Reminders:
- You should have a 3-point thesis statement
- You must include at least two citations per paragraph (all of your evidence) to support your claims/statements.
  - All quotes should have lead-ins, proper citation, and elaboration that is an analysis of how the citation supports your claim. DO NOT SIMPLY RESTATE OR SUMMARIZE THE CITATION.
- Avoid summary; do not give full plot information; critically analyze the novels. Analysis is key!
- You must write in formal voice – no personal pronouns – I, me, my, us, our, we, etc...
- No contractions – can’t don’t, does, etc...
- You must write in the literary present. NO PAST TENSE – was, did, had, etc...
- Times New Roman, 12-point font, double-spaced, running hear
- Use MLA format for in-text citations and Works Cited page - if you need help please use the Purdue Owl Website

There is a PowerPoint that goes over how to properly analyze and complete this essay. Please read it thoroughly before beginning your essay.

Due Date: The first day of school by 8:25am. Make sure it is submitted to Google Classroom AND turnitin, YOU DO NOT NEED A PRINTED COPY. If it is not submitted on time you will receive ½ credit. If it is not on turnitin.com, your assignment will automatically be deducted 15%.

Turnitin info - Class ID- 21309499 & Enrollment Key - Bivins
Remind info - AP Lang code Enter this number- 81010 Text this message- @bivaplang
Google Classroom info – Class code – vgjqf3m

*See attached handouts for further instructions on how to enroll in the various platforms.
* Be sure to sign up for all the above platforms to get updated announcements, reminders, and various resources that will be helpful to you.