

12th Grade AP Lit. and Comp. SUMMER READING ASSIGNMENTS

You will be working on **TWO** summer reading assignments. Before returning to school, you will complete both:

Assignment One: *Jane Eyre* by Charlotte Bronte

Assignment Two: Independent Read!

All summer work is due when our class meets on the first day of school. You will submit your assignments via our google classroom and turnitin.com . Please use MLA formatting.

Assignment #1: *Jane Eyre*- by Charlotte Brontë

SECTION 1: Background Research

The better you understand the Victorian era, the deeper your understanding of Jane's experiences (and Brontë's themes) will be. Use the space below to record your notes on this era and on Brontë's life.

Women's roles and rights in Victorian England:

Class Structure in Victorian England:

Education and the lives of children in Victorian England:

Biographical information about the author:

SECTION 2: Character development

Track Jane’s development as she travels through the five primary settings in the novel. From each setting, select at least two quotations, which demonstrate a significant development or change in Jane’s character, and explain the significance of each.

| Gateshead | Quotations w/page numbers | Significance |
|------------------|--|--|
| | 1. 2. | 1. 2. |
| Lowood | 1. 2. | 1. 2. |

SECTION 3: Exploring Foils

In literature, a foil is a character who highlights, emphasizes, or enhances the distinctive qualities of another by contrast. Several characters in *Jane Eyre* can be seen as foils for others. Identify three such pairs of characters and discuss the significance of this relationship.

| | |
|---|---|
| Character's name: | Foil's name: |
| Characteristics significant to foil relationship | Characteristics significant to foil relationship |
| Thematic significance of contrast between two characters | |

| | |
|---|---|
| Name of Character: | Name of Character: |
| Characteristics significant to foil relationship | Characteristics significant to foil relationship |

Thematic significance of contrast between two characters

| | |
|---|---|
| Name of Character: | Name of Character: |
| Characteristics significant to foil relationship | Characteristics significant to foil relationship |
| Thematic significance of contrast between two characters | |

SECTION 4: Connecting Settings and Characters

Identify the one character most intimately connected with the significant qualities of each of the novel’s five major settings. For each character, identify two major traits that relate to the setting, and demonstrate those traits in the character with quotations from the text.

| Character | Characteristic | Quotations w/page numbers |
|------------------|-----------------------|----------------------------------|
| Gateshead | 1. | 1. |

| | | |
|--|----|----|
| | 2. | 2. |
|--|----|----|

| Character | Characteristic | Quotations w/page numbers |
|------------------|-----------------------|----------------------------------|
| Gateshead | 1. 2. | 1. 2. |

| | | |
|-------------------|--------------|--------------|
| Lowood | 1. 2. | 1. 2. |
| Thornfield | 1. | 1. |

| | | |
|-------------------|--------------|--------------|
| | 2. | 2. |
| Moor House | 1. 2. | 1. 2. |
| Ferndean | 1. 2. | 1. 2. |

SECTION 5: Connecting to Background

Review the notes you took in section 1. How does Bronte’s writing reflect and respond to each of the areas you explored?

Women’s roles and rights in Victorian England:

Class Structure in Victorian England:

Education and the lives of children in Victorian England:

Biographical information about the author:

Section 6: Reflection

It is easy to criticize the social mores of the past, secure in the knowledge that we have advanced and are ever so much more enlightened than our predecessors, but can you do the much more difficult task of turning that critical eye on your own society? What aspect our society deserves comment? What aspect of teen culture? You need not focus on class and gender, but you certainly may. Identify your topic and briefly explain your concerns.

As always, if you need extra assistance *please* email me: cgentry@desertchristianacademy.org

Assignment # 2: Student Choice

Read a book for fun! This selection is your choice! When choosing a book, please consider:

1. Reading Level- *Harry Potter* will not do! This should be college level.
2. Books that have been recognized, especially for more modern titles. For example, the books, and/or authors, I plan on reading this summer have been listed on New York Times Bestsellers List.
3. The list of titles from the past AP Literature Exams.
4. Appropriateness- please use discernment when choosing your book.

Assignment:

1. Create a dialectical journal. Choose 15 quotes that resonate with you.
2. See “Dialectical Journal” for specifics, guidelines, and rubric: [Dialectical Journal](#)

If you do not have them on the first day, you cannot stay in AP English 12.