

2020 Summer Reading: Honors World Literature (English I)

Complete the assignments in **Times New Roman 12 point font double spaced.**

DUE **PRINTED** THE FIRST DAY OF CLASS! Late work = -10 points/day

Rationale:

This year's HWL summer reading assignment prepares students for analysis of literary devices as well as author's craft. It asks students to respond personally and critically to a novel that will serve as the foundation for plot analysis as well as a spring-board into world literature and study of archetypes. *Bless Me, Ultima* initiates our examination of the epic hero.

Assignment 1 (50 pts): Read Achebe's *Things Fall Apart*. Complete a response journal.

As you read, choose 3 passages from throughout the book (from several sentences to a paragraph in length) which attract your attention to critical aspects of the work: the language, insight into a character, world knowledge, universal truths, symbolism, humor, or literary devices (characterization, irony, figurative language, mood, tone, and theme).

1. Copy the passage, being sure to cite in MLA format (8th edition). Remember to block quotes that extend to more than four lines of text.
2. Next, compose a personal response to this passage in which you explore *in depth* the literary devices or other techniques used by the author. Write **at least ½ page**, double-spaced, in third-person (“the author”). Discuss **HOW** the author uses specific literary devices or other techniques to enhance the novel’s content.

Example:

Things Fall Apart Response Journal

1) “Okonkwo ruled his household with a heavy hand. His wives, especially the youngest, lived in perpetual fear of his fiery temper, and so did his little children. Perhaps down in his heart Okonkwo was not a cruel man. But his whole life was dominated by fear, the fear of failure and weakness” (Achebe 13).

In the passage above, Achebe addresses the character of Okonkwo. He is described as being an angry man who “ruled his household with a heavy hand” (13) and whose wives and children feared him.

Alliteration in the first and second sentences in the pairing of the words “heavy hand” (13) and “fear/fiery”

(13) add emphasis to this description. The author reveals that Okonkwo was not a cruel man, but that his life was dominated by his fear, which was materialized in his reactions to his family through his fiery temper. Perhaps this “fear of failure and weakness” (13) comes from the fact that Okonkwo wants in no way to resemble his father, Unoka, a creative and expressive man known for borrowing money and never repaying his debts. Terrified to show emotion like his father did, Okonkwo holds his feelings inside. This passage gives the reader an understanding of the origin of Okonkwo’s anger, along with the insight to perceive his anger as the upsurge of another emotion entirely.

Grading:

- **MLA Format: Correct format of quote above passage and within passage:** 5 points each (15 points total)
- **Each entry, graded holistically for identification of device, depth of analysis:** 10 points each (30 points total)
- **Editing:** - ½ point for each mistake
- **Turnitin.com:** 5 points (Will be taught in class)

Assignment 2 (50 points): Read Rudolpho Anaya’s *Bless Me, Ultima*. Complete a character portrait.

As you read, note direct or indirect quotes that demonstrate various traits of Antonio’s character. Use these quotes, cited in MLA format (8th edition), paired with the other required information to construct a profile according to the following parameters. Each part is meant to show the viewer a different aspect of Tony’s character.

These are the different parts of the **Character Portrait:**

- A symbol or picture of the character (original or found; cite if not your own):
No bigger than a sheet of printer paper
- A chart with the following information (see sample chart):
 - ❑ Character’s background information: Name, Age, Family Members, Occupation, etc.
 - ❑ 3 personality traits of the character and 2 quotations which demonstrate each of those traits (6 quotes total)
 - ❑ 4 struggles or obstacles the character faces in their life and 4 quotations that demonstrate those struggles/obstacles
 - ❑ 5 ideas/beliefs that the characters holds and 3 quotations that demonstrate those beliefs
 - ❑ 2 quotations that reveal the most about the character and an explanation of what is revealed.

The list above is what is **required** of you for this project. Your name and a works cited page should be included. **Print your chart as a separate assignment, please, with your name, etc.**

As always, work is expected to be completed individually unless otherwise directed. Teachers will examine submissions collectively to check for overt similarities or other signs of cheating.

<i>Bless Me, Ultima</i> Character Portrait *add picture and Works Cited page		
Character Background		
Personality Trait 1	Quote 1	Quote 2
Personality Trait 2	Quote 1	Quote 2
Personality Trait 3	Quote 1	Quote 2
Struggle/Obstacle 1		Quote
Struggle/Obstacle 2		Quote
Struggle/Obstacle 3		Quote
Struggle/Obstacle 4		Quote
Idea/Belief 1		Quote
Idea/Belief 2		Quote
Idea/Belief 3		Quote
Idea/Belief 4		Quote
Idea/Belief 5		Quote
Overall Characterization 1		Quote

Overall Characterization 2		Quote
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Grading:

50 points based on the quality of each required component including content value, accuracy, and appearance. Neatness counts!

Please read the following small print:

We realize that all of you are honorable and would not consider cheating. However, we will randomly check for plagiarism. Do not use quotes from Spark Notes, etc. Plagiarism will be treated as a serious offense. Offenders will receive a zero for this major grade and will be reported to the administration.