

Summer Reading for English 12 AP/CP

The Poisonwood Bible by Barbara Kingsolver

A Prayer for Owen Meany by John Irving

Pride and Prejudice by Jane Austen

Reading a Work and Responding To It Actively

A careful, active reading enables you to understand and respond to questions about meaning and organization. Obviously, we must first follow the work and understand its details. At the same time we must respond to the words, get at the ideas, understand the implications of what is happening, and apply our own experiences to verify the accuracy and truth of the situation and incidents, to appreciate the characters and their solutions to the problems they face, and to articulate our own emotional responses. In short, as active, participating readers, we should assimilate the work into our minds and spirits.

(*Literature: An Introduction to Reading and Writing, Second Edition*. Englewood Cliffs, N.J.: Prentice Hall, 1989.)

For this course, you will be required to complete reader response logs wherein you will read and respond actively to literature. Reading logs should be completed *as you read*. Each log has certain requirements:

The following 12 literary terms are required on all reading logs. Please note: you are required to include 15 entries on your reading log for each of the three novels...therefore, you must find 3 additional terms to include.

Tone/Shifts – the writer’s attitude toward the topic; *identify the writer’s tone and any shifts in tone that occur*; words that describe an author’s tone might include *critical, angry, sympathetic, caustic, sarcastic, satirical, etc.*

Style – anything a writer does which distinguishes him or her from other writers; *identify elements of the writer’s style of writing, what makes him or her unique*

Theme – the main idea or message of a literary work; *state a theme for the work using a complete, general statement*

Setting – the time and place of the story’s action; *identify the place and time of the action, note any shifts in setting as well*

Writer’s Intention – what the writer intended to convey to the reader; *identify the writer’s purpose*

Conflict(s) – a struggle between two opposing forces; *identify ALL conflicts including internal (man vs. himself) and external (man vs. man, man vs. society, man vs. nature)*

Point of View/Shifts – the vantage point from which the story is told; *identify the point of view of the work, first person, third person, and any shifts in point of view*

Mood/Shifts – the feeling or atmosphere that the work gives off; *identify the atmosphere or mood of the work, including any shifts in mood*

Characterization Methods – the method a writer uses to familiarize the reader with the characters in a work; *identify the methods of characterization the writer uses, including behavior, speech, physical description, thoughts and feelings, thoughts and feelings of other characters toward the main character*

(These 3 terms DO NOT require definitions.)

Personal Connections – *identify how the reading relates to your prior experience*

Personal Response – identify your reactions to the reading *AS YOU READ*

Title's Significance – identify how the title relates to the work...consider foreshadowing if applicable

For each of the above items except *personal responses, connections, and title's significance*, you must do the following:

- First, define the term.** For example, *tone is the writer's attitude toward the topic*. Use the definitions listed above.
- Second, provide evidence (an example)** from the reading, with page number.
- Third, discuss the implications** of the use of this technique. How does it affect the reading? What is the impact of its use? **This is the analysis of the text.**

Use the reading log template below for use throughout the school year. This can be a real time saver. For example, definitions will always be the same so why re-type them on every reading log?

Reading Log Template – Create this on your own template using the following format.

Name _____

Title/Author *The Poisonwood Bible* by Barbara Kingsolver

AP Literature

Page #	Definition of term	Example from text	Implication/Impact
22	Tone is the writer's attitude toward the topic.	Adah's tone is clearly critical when she says, "provide the actual text from the book here."	This seems to foreshadow more problems between Adah and her father.

YOU MUST USE THIS FORMAT FOR YOUR READING LOG!

Due date – turn in first day of school for 10 points extra credit per novel. You may also email me over the summer and attach the log/logs as a Word document, if you choose.

OR

Due within 10 days of the beginning of school.