



## Summer/Fall Entrance Assignment

2018-2019

### English I Entrance Assignment

Read *Lord of the Flies* by William Golding. Choose a character from the text to analyze. In your character analysis essay you may want to consider how the character is described, what kinds of relationships your character has with other characters, what struggles or conflict does your character encounter, and how do the actions and the presence of your character help with understanding the text as a whole. Your essay will include five paragraphs (introduction, body paragraphs, and a conclusion). Be sure to have a clear thesis statement and to provide textual evidence (quotations) to support the points or claims made about your character. Your handwritten essay will be scored on form/structure (5 paragraphs, indentions, writing inside margins of a composition notebook, legibility, etc.), on content (use of text and quotations, analysis of character, organization, development of ideas, use of language, etc.), and on grammar and mechanics (spelling, punctuation, syntax, etc.). Your character analysis essay is due the first Friday after school begins.

### English I Pre-AP Entrance Assignment

Read *Lord of the Flies* by William Golding **AND** *Animal Farm* by George Orwell. Choose one (1) of the following essay options:

- a. In an essay discuss how the authors use diction, details, and figurative language to create complex characters.
- b. In an essay discuss how the authors use symbolism and setting and how these elements contribute to the meaning of the text as a whole.

Your essay will include a discussion of both texts in five paragraphs (introduction, body paragraphs, and a conclusion). Be sure to have a clear thesis statement and to provide textual evidence (quotations) to support the points or claims made within your essay. Your handwritten essay will be scored on form/structure (5 paragraphs, indentions, writing inside margins of a composition notebook, etc.), on content (use of text and quotations, organization, development of ideas, use of language, etc.), and on grammar and mechanics (spelling, punctuation, etc.). Your essay is due the first Friday after school begins.

### English II Entrance Assignment

An in-class assessment based on your reading of *Fahrenheit 451* by Ray Bradbury will be given on the first Friday after school begins.

### English II Pre-AP Entrance Assignment

Authors build mystery, tension, or surprise not only through plot and character development but through the structure they use to build the story. Read *The Strange Case of Dr. Jekyll and Mr. Hyde* by Robert Louis Stevenson and *The Devil in the White City* by Erik Larson. Write a well-organized essay in which you analyze how both authors use elements such as plot structure, order of events, and manipulation of time to create dramatic effects such as mystery, tension, or surprise. Be sure to reference the text directly, providing MLA in-text citations for these references (see Purdue's Online Writing Lab for assistance). Essays should be hand-written and brought to class the second day of class.

### English III Entrance Assignment

An in-class assessment based on your reading of *The Color of Water* by James McBride **OR** *Ethan Frome* by Edith Wharton will be given within the first week of the course.

### English III AP Language and Composition Entrance Assignment

Pauline Hopkins, author of *Contending Forces*, writes, "And, after all, our surroundings influence our lives and characters as much as fate, destiny, or any supernatural agency."

All of the novels in the list below involve cultural, physical, or geographical surroundings that shape the psychological or moral traits of the author. Choose **one** book and write a well-organized essay in which you analyze how these surroundings affect this author and illuminate the meaning of the work as a whole. Be sure to reference the text directly, providing an MLA in-text citation for these references (see Purdue's Online Writing Lab for assistance: <https://owl.english.purdue.edu/owl/resource/747/02/>). Essays should be hand-written and submitted in a composition notebook on the 2<sup>nd</sup> day of class.

*Coming of Age in Mississippi* (Anne Moody) **OR** *Into Thin Air* (Jon Krakauer) **OR** *Eat Pray Love* (Elizabeth Gilbert)

#### **\*Note:**

In addition to the required entrance assignments, students enrolled in any English III or English IV course may also read the book (*The Best Cook in the World, Tales from My Mama's Table* by Rick Bragg) selected by the Tupelo Reads program for an extra assignment opportunity.

### **English IV Entrance Assignment**

Compose a **personal narrative essay** that chronicles an experience from your high school years. The personal narrative consists of three sections: the introduction, the story (body), and the conclusion with a lesson learned from your experience. The essay is a minimum of 750 words, typed and double-spaced in Times New Roman, 12 point font and one-inch margins. Provide a catchy title and a clear thesis. Organize your thoughts and include story conventions such as plot, setting, dialogue, characters, climax, and an ending. Prepare a professional **résumé and activities list**. Include education, clubs and organizations, special achievements and honors, community service etc.

An in-class assessment based on your reading of *The Lion in Winter* by James Goldman **AND** *Sir Gawain and the Green Knight* translated by Burton Raffel will be given on the first Friday after the course begins. Your personal narrative essay and résumé and activities list are due the first Friday as well.

### **English IV AP Literature and Composition Entrance Assignment**

Compose a **personal narrative essay** that chronicles an experience from your high school years. The personal narrative consists of three sections: the introduction, the story (body), and the conclusion with a lesson learned from your experience. The essay is a minimum of 750 words, typed and double-spaced in Times New Roman, 12 point font and one-inch margins. Provide a catchy title and a clear thesis. Organize your thoughts and include story conventions such as plot, setting, dialogue, characters, climax, and an ending. Prepare a professional **résumé and activities list**. Include education, clubs and organizations, special achievements and honors, community service etc.

Read the following **three (3) texts**: Sophocles' *Oedipus Rex*, Seamus Heaney's translation of the epic poem *Beowulf*, and Burton Raffel's translation of *Sir Gawain and the Green Knight*. Your personal narrative essay and résumé and activities list are due the first Friday after the semester begins, and an in-class assessment based on your readings will be given on that Friday as well.

## **Course Required Readings**

### **English I and English I Pre-AP**

*Romeo and Juliet* (William Shakespeare)  
Selected prose, poetry, and drama

### **English II—Books will be provided for the students.**

*Death Be Not Proud* (John Gunther)  
*The Hunger Games* (Suzanne Collins)  
*Lord of the Flies* (William Golding)  
Selected prose, poetry, and drama

### **English III**

*In Cold Blood* (Truman Capote)  
*The Crucible* (Arthur Miller)  
*The Great Gatsby* (F. Scott Fitzgerald)  
Selected prose, poetry, and drama

### **English IV**

*Beowulf* (translated by Burton Raffel)  
*Macbeth* (William Shakespeare)  
*Things Fall Apart* (Chinua Achebe)  
Selected prose, poetry, and drama

### **English II Pre-AP**

*Fahrenheit 451* (Ray Bradbury)  
*The Tragedy of Julius Caesar* (William Shakespeare)  
Selected prose, poetry, and drama

### **English III AP Language and Composition**

*The Awakening* (Kate Chopin)  
*The Color of Water* by James McBride  
*The Great Gatsby* (F. Scott Fitzgerald)  
*The Narrative of the Life of Frederick Douglass*  
*Walden* (Henry David Thoreau)  
Selected prose, poetry, and drama

### **English IV AP Literature and Composition**

*Heart of Darkness* (Joseph Conrad)  
*Paradise Lost* (John Milton)  
Shakespearean Drama (William Shakespeare)  
Selected prose, poetry, and drama

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