

## English 09

### Summer Reading Assignment 2018

#### Part 1

In order to keep up your reading skills and to prepare yourself for a rigorous year of reading and writing, you are required to read *The Color Purple* by Alice Walker and one other book from the list attached to this sheet. This assignment must be brought to your English class on September 10, 2018. The assignment will be graded as follows:

- *The Color Purple* assignment will count as a small project. Small projects account for 20% of your overall grade.
- In addition you will be quizzed on *The Color Purple*. Quizzes account for 15% of your overall grade.
- Your free choice book will also count as a small project which, again, accounts for 20% of your overall grade.

Your answers must be typed using 12pt. Times New Roman/Times with one inch margins all around and a 1 tab indent on all paragraphs. Please also bring the book with you on the first day of class.

1. In about 2 or 3 paragraphs summarize the plot of this novel in your own words. Remember that all plots have an exposition, rising action, a climax, falling action and a resolution. Try to cover all these points in your summary.
2. This is a first person narrative; Celie tells the story herself. Does her telling the story help you to understand it better or would it have been better for the author to have told the story? Be specific: refer to definite things that happened in the story to support your opinion and use page numbers.
3. How would you describe the relationship between Mr. \_\_\_\_\_ and his father, and the relationship between Harpo and Mr. \_\_\_\_\_? Be specific - refer to definite things that happened in the story to support your opinion.
4. Discuss Celie's relationship with either Nettie or Mister. Does her relationship with this person help or hinder her? Be specific - give examples.
5. Write in detail about **any 3 characters** in the book (except the character you wrote about in your answer to question # 4) Who is the character? Describe them. What are their most important characteristics? (Not just looks - personality and attitudes too.) Explain why this person is important in the story. Be specific - give examples.
6. Why do the Olinka not identify with Samuel, Corrine, and Nettie on the basis of race?
7. What does the way the community reacts to Shug's illness say about the status of women?
8. Choose one of the following themes or ideas in the book. Explain how the author brings out this theme. Refer to specific characters or events in your explanation.
  - a. Self-Discovery
  - b. Men, Women, and Gender Roles
  - c. Violence and Suffering
  - d. Race and racism

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- e. God and Spirituality

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#### Part 2: Essay

Read any one of the following books. When you finish, answer the following question:

In retrospect, the reader often discovers that the first chapter of a novel or the opening scene of a drama introduces some of the major themes of the work. Write an essay about the opening scene of a drama or the first chapter of a novel in which you explain how it functions in this way.

Your answers must be typed using in MLA (Modern Language Association) format 12pt. Times New Roman/Times with one inch margins all around and a 1 tab indent on all paragraphs. For help with MLA format, please see the Purdue University Online Writing Lab (<http://owl.english.purdue.edu>).

Please choose a book you have not yet read.

*The Bluest Eye* by Toni Morrison  
*The Joy Luck Club* by Amy Tan  
*Things Fall Apart* by Chinua Achebe  
*Silver Sparrow* by Tayari Jones  
*The Outsiders* by S.E. Hinton  
*Kindred* by Octavia Butler  
*Wide Sargasso Sea* by Jean Rhys  
*The Heart is a Lonely Hunter* by Carson McCullers  
*The Coldest Winter Ever* by Sister Souljah  
*Farewell to Manzanar* by Jeanne Wakatsuki  
*The Souls of Black Folk* by W.E.B. DuBois  
*1984* by George Orwell  
*Mules and Men* by Zora Neale Hurston  
*The Invention of Wings* by Sue Monk Kidd  
*The Book of Phoenix* by Nnedi Okarafor  
*The Fifth Season* by N.K. Jemisin  
*Jacob Have I Loved* by Katherine Paterson  
*The Lord of the Flies* William Golding  
*The Street* by Ann Petry  
*Eleanor and Park* by Rainbow Rowell  
*Heart of Darkness* by Joseph Conrad

**A note on plagiarism:** plagiarism is copying the work of another person without proper acknowledgement. There are two parts in the definition: **copying** and the **absence of proper acknowledgement**. As a result, it gives an impression to an ordinary reader that the work is the original work of the author when in fact it was copied from some others' work. The idea

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underlying plagiarism is very simple: if you appropriate the work of another person, you should give proper recognition to that person.

Plagiarism covers “any other form of assessment.” It covers tests, homework, take-home examinations, assignments, projects, and other forms of coursework. Copying does not necessarily mean copying word for word. Closely paraphrasing or substantial copying with minor modifications (such as changing grammar, adding a few words or reversing active/passive voices) is still copying for this purpose. It is not so much the form of the copying that is important, but the substance of what is copied. It does not matter what the nature of the source is. It may be a book, an article, a page from the internet, or simply an assignment of another student.

***If you are found to have plagiarized, you will receive a 0 on your assignment and parents/guardians will be contacted.***