

Advanced Placement Language and Composition 2018-2019

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2018 Summer Reading Assignment Requirements:

1. Acquire a copy of August Wilson's play *Fences* (used paperback is recommended; online edition is permissible)

2. Closely read/Annotate *Fences*

3. View the *Fences* film (2016, directed by Denzel Washington)

SUMMARY: Write a 300 or more word summary of the Wilson's written version of the play *Fences*. What is the play's structure? Examine the characters. What is the overall theme? What is the play's climax and resolution?

• **REVIEW:** Write a 300 word or more review of the film *Fences*. Analyze specific scenes in context with the rest of the film

• **COMPARE/CONTRAST:** Write a 300 or more word compare/contrast of the play and film versions of *Fences*

• **ARGUMENT:** Write a 300 or more word argument about race relations in America ...TBA

4. NOTE: There will be a 50 point exam (Quarter One grade) on the play and film versions of *Fences* within the first seven days of the course. This is a summative assessment.

5. NOTE: There will be a 50 point Socratic seminar (Quarter One grade) on *Fences* within the first seven days of the course. This is a formative assessment.

Part Two: The following is a suggested format for taking targeted and focused notes on the play, *Fences*.

Prolific Characteristics to Note:

1. **Reader Response:** Be able to trace your reactions, to ask questions in class, to remind yourself when you find answers to earlier questions. This should help note the writer's effectiveness.

MAKE NOTE OF:

- Your reactions/emotional responses (humor, surprise, sadness, anger, frustration, tension, criticism, confusion, etc.)
- Your questions or lack of understanding or doubts (ask "Why?")
- Your revelations (when "things" become clear to you, when you create links between ideas)
- Similarities to other works (This reminds me of...)
- Wonderful writing—passages that strike you artistically/aesthetically and why

2. **Speaker:** Think about who the writer is and what he or she NEEDS to communicate. This should help you determine the author's credibility.

MAKE NOTE OF:

- Introductory facts (author backgrounds and relationship to the topic, bias, etc.)
- Ethos—how does the author establish credibility and character on the given topic?
- Note words and language that indicate the author’s attitude or tone and where it shifts
 - Note when the author directly or indirectly states how he or she feels
- Observe key lines that stand out as crucial to the author’s argument

3. Occasion: Think about what caused the author to write about this topic and whether or not it is a valid reason.

MAKE NOTE OF:

- The author’s reasons for writing—what is the motivation?
- Historical, political, and social issues surrounding the topic
- The author’s personal reasons as well as the greater world influences for the piece
- Evidence of views characteristic of the time period and culture surrounding the work
- Descriptions of class judgments, racism, and gender biases, stereotypes, etc.

4. Audience: Think about what kind of person or people the author intended to view the piece. Is the author able to connect with that audience effectively.

MAKE NOTE OF:

- Evidence of who the author is trying to reach
- Where the author directly or indirectly addresses a specific audience
- Any “call to action” that the author is issuing to the reader
- Pathos—does the author appeal to your sense emotion through anecdotes and figurative language

5. Purpose: Think about the author’s purpose in writing this book and whether or not he or she is effective in that purpose.

MAKE NOTE OF:

- Specific reasons for writing (informing, persuading, arguing, refuting, exemplifying)
- Logos—the author’s appeal to reason. Examine how the author makes the reader believe in that purpose.

6. Subject: Think about what the book is discussing and whether or not the author shows why this subject matter is important.

MAKE NOTE OF:

- Elements related to the problem or issue
- How the author develops or deepens the aspects of the problem or issue
- How the author shows the complications related to the subject and the implication of it to you, the nation, the world, etc.

7. Authorial Devices and Structures in the Argument: Think about the author’s techniques in delivery and how effective the author’s methods are for rhetorical purposes.

MAKE NOTE OF:

- Changes in point of view/emphasis
- Crucial language/vocabulary (not just a word that you don’t understand, but one that seems crucial to understanding the argument)
- Stylistic techniques (irony, satire, humor, exaggeration, repetition/patterns, possible symbols, significant metaphors and other notable literary and rhetorical devices)

- How the author's structure of the argument/book influence the reader and relate to the subject, audience, and purpose

Part Three: Follow the link below.

https://docs.google.com/document/d/1h7Ob8VP1Q5Tunq_zs87_i2SaFnFZCyxHohKRyp8DOs/edit?usp=sharing