

English IV

Advanced Placement/Dual Credit

Summer Reading Assignment

Purchase a copy of the work *Dubliners* by James Joyce (it would be to your advantage to purchase a copy that includes notes). Carefully read this entire work—it will appear to be a series of short stories.

Once you finish the work, choose a story that strikes you as particularly beautiful, unusual, descriptive, or profound. Copy a two-page passage that will work well for the following assignment (due the second day of class). Please type each of the writing portions of the assignment in Times New Roman 12-point font double spacing.

1. Read the passage closely, noting anything that you particularly enjoy, admire, or wonder about. Write these comments in the margins, using arrows to point to sentences, phrases, and words that catch your attention.
2. Summarize what happens in the story on the plot level in a paragraph of no more than 250 words. Label this "Literal Meaning."
3. Highlight in yellow imagery in the passage. (Imagery is writing that appeals to the senses; if you notice something visual, or a description of a smell, these are examples of imagery.)
4. Next to each example of imagery, write the sense to which the image appeals (sight, sound, taste, touch, smell) and briefly explain the effect of these images.
5. In the margins, write out definitions for words you do not know.
6. Highlight in green figures of speech (metaphors, similes, etc.) and comment on how each enhances the meaning of the passage.
7. Highlight in pink any sound devices you notice (alliteration, consonance, onomatopoeia). Comment on the effect of each device in the margins.

8. In a paragraph of no more than 250 words, analyze the syntax Joyce uses. For example, comment on punctuation, sentence length, and sequence of words. How does Joyce's arrangement of language enhance the impact of the passage? Label this "Syntax."
9. In a paragraph of no more than 250 words, describe the tone of the story (restrained, flat, patronizing, peaceful, etc.) and explain how Joyce creates it. Label this "Tone."
10. Comment on any personal connections you can make with the story. Label this short paragraph "Personal Meaning."
11. Speculate on the universal message of the story. What larger truth is Joyce attempting to capture in the story? Label this paragraph "Universal Meaning."
12. Finally, evaluate the story. Why is it effective? Give details to support your answer. Label this paragraph "Evaluation."

Your senior year will be a challenging one as you will be reading college-level texts and writing multi-modal papers. Most class periods will require some type of written response either formal or informal in form. You also will be preparing for the Advanced Placement English Literature and Composition exam for the end of the year.

This course will prepare you for the challenges that lie ahead in college and beyond. You will become a more skillful, thoughtful, and critical reader of prose and poetry. You will become a more powerful essayist.

We look forward to meeting and working with each of you next school year; however, you should be prepared for a challenging class. Remember, this is a COLLEGE-level course and an ADVANCED PLACEMENT class. The workload is rigorous—you must be a reader to succeed.

Sincerely,

Ms. Lori Brown

Mrs. Doris Cox