

Summer Reading Assignment – AP English Language: 2010

Assigned Works:

The Scarlet Letter by Nathaniel Hawthorne
The Red Badge of Courage by Stephen Crane
Passing by Nella Larsen

I. Essay Prompt:

Decide on a main theme, or set of themes, from either work, and explore how **three symbols or three characters** from the novel relate to it. In other words, how do the symbols convey the overall theme or themes of the story? Your thesis statement should include the major theme in the form of a thematic statement.

The assignment consists of these components:

1. Introduction (Into and thesis statement):

- a. Your introduction should begin with an "into" that prepares your reader's brain for the topic that will be discussed in your essay. This "into" should be followed by a thesis statement that clearly states what you will be proving / discussing in your essay.
- b. Email your introduction, complete with an into and thesis to me by **Friday, July 30.**
- c. **If approved, you are ready for #2, if denied, you must re-submit.**
- d. Email to **annemariedomenic@gmail.com**

2. **Outline:** an outline of your essay is due during the first full week of school, **Wed, August 18.**

3. **Essay:** In-class essay to be written during the first full week of classes, **Thursday, August 19.**

In a nutshell: You will be emailing me 1 item. I will either approve or not approve it when you send it. **If you are not approved, you must re-submit.** When approved, you will move on to the next assignment. **All dates are firm! You will be graded on each component. Your grades from summer reading comprise the majority of your first marking period grade.**

II. Poster Project:

Please choose one of the above novels to be the subject of a poster.

- Decide on a main theme / topic from one of the above works. Your poster will reflect this message.
- Design a poster (size 12 x 18") that depicts an important event / scene (or events / scenes) that reflects your chosen theme / topic in the novel. **Use color! Illustrations should be visible from a distance.** (Please do **NOT** use foam core or super-thick poster board.)
- Place the title of the work and the author's name clearly and legibly on the front of the poster so that it can be seen from a distance.
- Select a passage that supports the event that you have chosen to illustrate. Copy the entire quote (neatly and accurately) onto the front of your poster (it must be visible from a distance). Please edit your work! Spelling and neatness count!
- Posters are due on **Tuesday, August 17, the day of the exam.**

III. Exam: The Summer Reading Exam is scheduled for **Tuesday, August 17.**