

## Summer Reading Assignment 2016-17

### ENGLISH 10 and 10AA

Ms. Deonier

Please note that English 10AA students are to complete all parts of this assignment, and English 10 students should complete all parts of this assignment except the parts labeled "AA ONLY."

### Assignment Overview

Please keep in mind that only through the timely submission of thoughtful, detailed, original work will you earn passing grades. All summer reading assignments are due by the beginning of your English class on the first Friday of the 2016-17 school year. We will continue to use the summer reading books throughout 1<sup>st</sup> quarter; therefore, you will need a copy of each of these books throughout 1<sup>st</sup> quarter. It is up to you whether you purchase your copies or check them out from the public library and keep them renewed, but you will need copies of the books in class throughout 1<sup>st</sup> quarter.

Students who complete English 10AA earn weighted credit for doing so. Therefore, English 10AA students do more work to earn AA credit than English 10 (non AA) students do to earn regular credit. You will be happy and successful in this AA English class if you possess a deep interest in reading, discussing, and creating high-level pieces of writing and have the time for a heavier homework load.

### Required Summer Reading Books

1. *A Lesson Before Dying* by Ernest J. Gaines (First edition, March 15, 2011)  
ISBN-13: 978-0375702709
2. *The Jungle* by Upton Sinclair  
ISBN-13: 978-0486419237
3. *Cat's Cradle* by Kurt Vonnegut, Jr. (\*\*AA ONLY\*\*)  
ISBN-13: 978-0385333481

### Part 1

**STEP 1-** Read the novel *A Lesson Before Dying* by Ernest J. Gaines

**STEP 2-** The chapters in *A Lesson Before Dying* are not titled. Create a title for each chapter and explain why it is a good title for that particular chapter. Your explanation must be between 2-5 sentences long and at least 15 of your chapter title explanations must include a direct quote from that chapter as supporting evidence for why your chapter title is a good one. This assignment should be either handwritten ever so neatly directly on the form included with this pack or you may type out a form exactly like this form and type in your responses as you go.

\*1<sup>st</sup> quarter, we will continue to work with *A Lesson Before Dying*. Be prepared for an assessment the first week of school.

### Part 2

**STEP 1-** Read the novel *The Jungle* by Upton Sinclair.

**STEP 2-** In a composition notebook, take organized notes on each chapter. These notes will help prepare you for the assessment the first week of school. Be sure to include information about the main idea of each chapter as well as specific supporting details.

**STEP 3-** The writer, Upton Sinclair, hoped that readers would gain compassion for vulnerable people in society. At the end of your notes (in your composition notebook) write a 1-2 page review in which you discuss the parts of the novel that are most likely to move readers to feel more compassion.

\*1<sup>st</sup> quarter, we will continue to work with *The Jungle*. Be prepared for an assessment the first week of school.

### **Part 3 (\*\*AA ONLY\*\*)**

**STEP 1-** Read the novel *Cat's Cradle* by Kurt Vonnegut, Jr.

**STEP 2-** Use *Cat's Cradle* to complete the satire chart contained in this pack.

**STEP 3-** Follow MLA formatting guidelines to create an essay of at least 5 paragraphs (with each paragraph comprised of at least 5 sentences) in which you respond to **one** of the prompts below.

#### **Prompts:**

1. Intertextuality, a term coined by Julia Kristeva in 1969, refers to the idea that all texts are essentially mosaics of references to or quotations from other texts. It argues that no text is an isolated, closed system, but is involved in a dialogue with other texts. From its opening allusion to *Moby-Dick*, *Cat's Cradle* is overtly intertextual. What is the effect of Vonnegut's use of allusion to and quotation from other texts, both actual (texts that exist in the real world) and fictional (texts that only exist in the fictional world of *Cat's Cradle*)?
2. In *Cat's Cradle*, Vonnegut comments on important social and political issues of the 1950s and 1960s. Is his commentary relevant to our times? Write an essay in which you argue for or against the relevance of the text as social commentary in the 21<sup>st</sup> century.
3. The questions "See the cat? See the cradle?" are repeated throughout the novel. What specific message is Vonnegut trying to impart through these questions? What function does the repetition of these questions serve? How is the image of the cat's cradle string game important in the novel?
4. In *Cat's Cradle* we are told that McCabe and Bokonon devise a religious and political system for San Lorenzo in which one plays the part of a tyrant and the other plays the part of a saint. This creates a "dynamic tension" (ch. 47) in which "life became a work of art" (ch. 79). Explain the importance of this dynamic tension in the novel as well as the social commentary Vonnegut is offering through his descriptions of this system.

\*1<sup>st</sup> quarter, we will continue to work with *Cat's Cradle*. Be prepared for an assessment the first week of school.

- For more information on correct MLA formatting, check out Purdue University's Online Writing Lab at the following web address: <https://owl.english.purdue.edu/owl/resource/747/01/>
- For more information on writing a literary analysis paper, check out Purdue University's Online Writing Lab at the following web addresses: <https://owl.english.purdue.edu/owl/resource/677/01/> and <https://owl.english.purdue.edu/owl/resource/618/01/>

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Directions: English 10 and English 10AA students should complete this assignment. The chapters in *A Lesson Before Dying* are not titled. Create a title for each chapter and explain why it is a good title for that particular chapter. Your explanation must be between 2-5 sentences long and at least 15 of your chapter title explanations must include a direct quote from that chapter as supporting evidence for why your chapter title is a good one.

***A Lesson Before Dying***

CHAPTER 1 TITLE: \_\_\_\_\_

REASONS THAT THIS IS A GOOD TITLE FOR THIS CHAPTER (in 2-5 full sentences):

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CHAPTER 2 TITLE: \_\_\_\_\_

REASONS THAT THIS IS A GOOD TITLE FOR THIS CHAPTER (in 2-5 full sentences):

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CHAPTER 3 TITLE: \_\_\_\_\_

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CHAPTER 4 TITLE: \_\_\_\_\_

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CHAPTER 5 TITLE: \_\_\_\_\_

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**CHAPTER 8 TITLE:** \_\_\_\_\_

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**CHAPTER 9 TITLE:** \_\_\_\_\_

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**CHAPTER 31 TITLE:** \_\_\_\_\_

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**SATIRIC DEVICES CHART**

DEVICE	DEFINITION	EXAMPLE	EXAMPLE FROM CAT'S CRADLE
<b>Satire</b>	Literary art form that ridicules human folly or vice hoping to correct it	<i>Saturday Night Live's</i> "Weekend Update," Swift's "A Modest Proposal," Pope's "The Rape of the Lock," Orwell's <i>Animal Farm</i> , editorial/political cartoons	
<b>Verbal Irony</b>	When someone says the opposite of what is meant	"For Brutus is an honourable man; So are they all, all honourable men" <i>(Julius Caesar, III.ii, Shakespeare)</i>	
<b>Dramatic Irony</b> (sometimes referred to as Tragic Irony)	When the reader or audience knows or understands something important that one of the characters does not know	Near the end of <i>Romeo and Juliet</i> , Romeo mentions multiple times that Juliet does not look dead as he leans over her body. We, the reader/ audience, know that she is not dead; Romeo does not know that she is not dead.	
<b>Situational Irony</b>	The difference between what the reader or audience is intended to expect to happen and what actually happens	In the movie <i>The Sixth Sense</i> (1999), Dr. Malcolm Crowe, a child psychologist who tries to help a young boy who apparently sees ghosts, is revealed at the end of the movie as a ghost himself, something Dr. Crowe does not know and the audience is not expected to know until the point of revelation.	

<b>Invective</b>	A harsh, scathing denunciation against a person or institution	<p>For Brutus, as you know, was Caesar's angel:      Judge, O you gods, how dearly Caesar loved him!      This was the most unkindest cut of all;      For when the noble Caesar saw him stab,      Ingratitude, more strong than traitors' arms,      Quite vanquished him: then burst his mighty heart;      (<i>Julius Caesar</i>, III.ii, Shakespeare)</p>	
<b>Sarcasm</b>	A sharply mocking, sneering, and/or contemptuous remark	When the nervous freshman dropped his lunch tray, the seniors at a nearby table gave him a standing ovation and yelled, "Way to go!"	
<b>Hyperbole</b>	A gross overstatement; an extreme exaggeration	You've got a <i>million</i> chances to get this right!	
<b>Understatement</b>	Speech that deliberately minimizes a situation	A person getting an A+ on a test and saying, "I did okay on the test."	