

HONORS ENGLISH II – SUMMER ASSIGNMENTS 2021

General instructions: To accommodate for students who are reliant on their surfaces to complete their work and to use Teams as a means of submitting work, due dates for summer work are somewhat flexible. Look for an e-mail for a new Team for Honors English II around August 1st. Once that has been set up, there will be assignments in Teams for the submission of your summer work.

Some reminders for submitting your work:

- Always submit Word documents on Teams. It's much easier for grading than OneNote or GoogleDocs.
- Always follow MLA guidelines for formatting your work including an appropriate heading, correct spacing, etc.
- Always use literary present tense in writing about literature.
- Never use first- or second-person personal pronouns such as I, we, you, and their variations in formal academic writing.
- Essays should follow the five-paragraph essay structure unless otherwise indicated.

Assignment #1: *The Strange Case of Dr. Jekyll and Mr. Hyde* by Robert Louis Stevenson

- Read the novel.
- Respond to the following analysis questions:
 1. Choose THREE of the following topics addressed in *The Strange Case of Dr. Jekyll and Mr. Hyde* and for each of your selections write a theme statement. The support your theme statement with details from the novella. The topics are: lies and deceit; violence; religion; women and femininity; good v. evil; repression; friendship; appearances; science; curiosity. (This question requires THREE paragraphs.)
 2. Choose ONE of the following symbols from *The Strange Case of Dr. Jekyll and Mr. Hyde*; then explain what the symbol means and how the author uses the symbol to reinforce one of your theme statements from question 1. The symbols are; the city; passageways; London fog v. light.
 3. Identify the tone of *The Strange Case of Dr. Jekyll and Mr. Hyde*; then explain how the tone supports one of your theme statements from question 1.
 4. Evaluate the effectiveness of the narrative point of view. How does having Mr. Utterson narrate the novella help build suspense in the novella? How does the author allow the reader to ultimately see the points of view of characters other than Utterson?
 5. Paying particular attention to Stevenson's descriptions of the city at night, discuss how Stevenson uses descriptive passages to evoke a mood a dread.
- Write an essay responding to the following prompt:

In *Harry Potter and the Order of the Phoenix*, Sirius Black tells Harry, "The world isn't split into good people and Death Eaters. We've all got both light and dark inside us. What matters is the part we choose to act on. That's who we really are." Write an essay in which you demonstrate how well, or not, Stevenson's novella illustrates this idea.
- Submit your work no later than August 15.

Assignment #2: *Fahrenheit 451* by Ray Bradbury

- Read the novel.
- Respond to the following analysis questions:
 1. The following three quotes each reflect an idea embodied in the novel. Choose ONE and explain the connection between the quote and the novel.
 - a. "Books won't stay banned. They won't burn. Ideas won't go to jail. In the long run of history, the censor and the inquisitor have always lost. The only sure weapon against bad ideas is better ideas. The source of better ideas is wisdom." Alfred Whitney Griswold, *Essays on Education*
 - b. "Where they have burned books, they will end in burning human beings." Heinrich Heine, *Almansor*

- c. "For books are not absolutely dead things, but . . . do preserve as in a vial the purest efficacy and extraction of that living intellect that bred them . . . Who kills a man kills a reasonable creature, God's image; but he who destroys a book, kills reason itself, kills the image of God, as it were in the eye. Many a man lives a burden to the earth; but a good book is the precious life-blood of a master spirit, embalmed and treasured up on purpose to a life beyond life." John Milton, "Areopagitica"
2. Find an example of ONE of the following types of irony in the novel and analyze the effect and purpose of your example: situational, dramatic; verbal.
3. This novel contains many symbols and archetypes. Choose ONE of the following symbols and explain its meaning and how it is connected to one of the themes of the novel. The symbols are: salamander; phoenix; Tower of Babel; mechanical hound; mirror; books.
4. Now choose TWO of the following archetypes and explain its significance in the novel. The universally accepted meaning for each archetype is given as well (This question requires TWO paragraphs):
 - A. The color black (darkness) – This color often signifies the unknown, death, the unconscious, evil, or great power.
 - B. The color red – This color often signifies blood, violence, and chaos.
 - C. The color white (light) – As a positive color, it signifies purity and innocence; in its negative aspects, it represents death and terror.
 - D. Snake or serpent – The snake is nearly always a symbol of evil energy and force.
 - E. Sun or fire – This paradoxical symbol represents creative energy and the passage of time. The setting sun represents death.
 - F. Water or river – Rivers represent death and rebirth and the flowing of time.
 - G. The good mother – She is a positive female character associated with warmth, nourishment, growth, and abundance.
 - H. The wise old man – A character who comes to the rescue of the hero, the old man is knowledgeable and moral; he represents truth.
 - I. The season of fall – Autumn suggests old age and approaching death.
5. Explain the significance of title of ONE of the three parts of the novel. The names are: part one – "The Hearth and the Salamander;" part two – "The Sieve and the Sand;" part three – "Burning Bright."
6. Look up the characteristics of dystopian societies portrayed in novels. How well does *Fahrenheit 451* fit into this category of novel? Be sure to use specific examples from the novel to support your answer.
- Write an essay responding to the following prompt:
This novel should be read with the premise that Bradbury's message in the novel is that "oppressive government, left unchecked, can do irreparable damage to society by limiting the creativity and freedom of its people." Does the novel support this premise? Why or why not? Use evidence from the novel to support your position.
- Submit your work no later than August 15.