

Honors British Literature
Reading List (2018-2019)

Required Summer Reading:

Tess of the D'Urbervilles

Thomas Hardy

Pygmalion

George Bernard Shaw

Suggested Readings:

Anna Karenina

Leo Tolstoy

Pride and Prejudice

Jane Austen

The Fixer

Bernard Malamud

The Mayor of Casterbridge

Thomas Hardy

A Passage to India

E.M. Forster

Mill on the Floss

George Eliot

Wuthering Heights

Emily Bronte

Jane Eyre

Charlotte Bronte

The Power and the Glory

Grahame Greene

Cry, the Beloved Country

Alan Paton

Brave New World

Aldous Huxley

Lord Jim

Joseph Conrad

David Copperfield

Charles Dickens

Dracula

Bram Stoker

The Stranger

Albert Camus

Secret Sharer

Joseph Conrad

Moll Flanders

Daniel Defoe

Guest of Honor

Nadine Gordimer

The Picture of Dorian Gray

Oscar Wilde

The Lord of the Flies

William Golding

The House of Spirits

Isabel Allende

The African Queen

C.S. Forester

The Hobbit

J.R.R. Tolkein

Candide

Voltaire

The Once and Future King

T.H. White

For Class Discussion and Analysis:

Edith Hamilton's *Mythology* (to be read during the summer and tested on during the first and second six weeks grading periods)

Hedda Gabler, Ibsen

The required **essay** is due on the first day of school, and there will be a **test** on the assigned **the drama** the first day. There are no acceptable excuses for late work. Manage your time and do not wait until the last minute. I do not want to hear that your printer would not work or that your printer ran out of ink or that you do not have a computer and, therefore, had to wait for your best friend to finish his/her report before you could type yours.

The reports are to be typed in Times New Roman – 12 pt and placed in a folder **that you are responsible for maintaining for the entire year**. Each report is to be handed in with all previous reports. *Newly completed novel reports will not be accepted without previously graded reports.*

Cliff's Notes on any literary work will not be acceptable as reference material. You may use no more than ONE (1) internet source, but be careful. Internet sources are not always reliable information. If you use an internet source, you must also use two (2) reliable resource books from the library. In other words, do not limit your realm of research to the internet!

Remember: The required essay is due on the first day of school. There are no acceptable excuses for late work. Manage your time and do not wait until the last minute! If the essay is not ready the first day, be prepared to be placed in the Survey of British Literature class.

ESSAY TOPIC FOR *TESS OF THE D'URBERVILLES*

Embracing naturalism is a major facet of Thomas Hardy's writing. A naturalist writer depicts the world as harsh and unsympathetic to the plight of man. His characters are often the passive victims of nature or society (which are completely indifferent to human misery).

Write an essay in which you discuss the roles of naturalism and fate in *Tess of the D'Urbervilles* and how Hardy may have hoped that pointing out the evils of society would lead to social reform. (Use your essay guidelines to compose your paper.)

NOVEL REPORT FORM

1. Full title and author (in complete sentence form).
2. Place and time published (for edition used).
3. Type of work (Is it a novel or prose fiction?) Is it picaresque, sentimental, romantic, realistic, utilitarian, satiric, naturalistic, stream-of-consciousness, sociological, political, symbolic or a combination or two or more?
4. Point of view. Refer to characters and significance.
5. Organization (Explain by reference to plot.)
 - a. If orthodox (beginning, middle, and end in that order), point out exposition, inciting incident, ascending interest, climax, conclusion.
 - b. If unorthodox, then what? (flashbacks, stream-of-consciousness, *in medias res*, etc.)
6. Characters. Give a character sketch of one major or minor character. Use references to indirect and direct characterization, flat, round, stereotype or stock characters.
7. Purpose. Is the novel aesthetic or iconoclastic? Explain and support with details from the novel.
8. Is the author in any way presenting a phase of American, English, or Continental life? If the answer is no, then what kind of life is presented? Explain either choice.
9. Unity and style (Technique). Does the novel possess “organic unity”? Why or why not? Is the style related to its unity or disunity? (In answering this question, discuss the style itself.)
10. If you have not discussed it earlier, show how this novel is or is not characteristic of its author as a craftsman, philosopher, etc.
11. **You must use the MLA style. Works Cited page is required.**

The Romantic Period

Poetry Portfolio Requirements

Subject: English Romantic Period (1798-1832)

Assignment: Create a representative portfolio of poetry from the period using the following particular forms: **lyric (song), sonnet, blank verse, ballad, elegy, ode, narrative poetry and epic (excerpt of a minimum of 30 lines with the last two forms).**

Suggestion: Think of this project as a mini textbook on the period complete with poetry, analyses, table of contents, illustrations, and works cited.

Requirements

- ❖ Cover design (Creativity is a must.): Subject, including dates of period
- ❖ Title page for the portfolio (Be Creative!): minimum requirements: your name and project title
- ❖ Section title page: minimum requirements: **Name of the form** (example: sonnet)
- ❖ **Definition of the form** (example: broad definition of sonnet and the specific type [Petrarchan])
Listing of your examples with the poet's name
Citations listing the resources in which you found your examples (example: Author/Editor, Title, Place of Publication: Company, Copyright date. [MLA format])
- ❖ For each form, you must have at least two poems (exception: one epic and one narrative poem) from the literary period. You should include the full text of the poem with the title and poet's name. You may use the Internet to find poems in addition to your textbook or any other books you have with poems from the literary period.
- ❖ For the literary period, write a brief introduction (2-3 pages) with citations (MLA format).
- ❖ For each poem you select, you should include a brief authorial background, which you write yourself and cite appropriately (MLA format).
- ❖ For each poem, you should include a brief explanation of the theme and symbols and other poetic devices. Refer to specific lines from the poem to support your argument.
- ❖ For each poem you should also include why this poem is representative of the period (because the poems were written in the Romantic Period is not an appropriate answer). Refer to your textbook and other sources.
- ❖ For each poem, include an accompanying **illustration** from the period, which should include the name of the work or art and its artist (if necessary).
- ❖ Lastly, you should write a poem of your own to represent one of the forms (identify the form your poem represents), and you should include an illustration describing your poem. This illustration may be something that you draw, a photograph that you take, or an image from the Internet.

Due Date: November 16th. Late work will require seven points per day to be deducted from the grade. After five days, failure to hand in the project will result in an automatic zero. **The project will represent ¼ of your third six weeks grade. The project will require a great deal of work; start now! Plagiarism is not acceptable, and you will receive a zero if you plagiarize. If you are uncertain, make sure that if you use the information at all, cite it!**