

Rising IB Seniors,

The concentration for the first semester is known in IB lingo as **Part 2: Detailed Study**, in which you will closely examine texts from various genres. During this semester, we will focus on developing the necessary skills for your Paper 1 exam (the unseen commentary), written in May of 2019, and your Individual Oral Commentary, performed in December 2018. We will focus on drama, poetry, and the novel, beginning with William Faulkner's *The Sound and the Fury* (available for purchase at Barnes and Noble and amazon.com). Over the summer, you will need to read, reread, and annotate this novel. You must be able to recall information for a long time—at least until your IA in December! Therefore, it is essential that you read the novel in its entirety and take detailed notes. Plan on testing on this material upon your first day back after summer vacation.

You will also need to turn in your **World Literature paper as soon as you return back from summer vacation**. (No exceptions – this is a grade!) It needs to include a 300 word reflective statement along with your revisions. You will upload your final draft, along with the reflective statement, into our course CANVAS page upon return from break.

I have also included information for the second major assignment, which is the reading and annotating of Shakespeare's *Macbeth*, for any student who would like to be proactive in preparation for the upcoming school year.

I will check emails regularly (although not daily) throughout the summer. Please let me know if you have any questions. Find a balance between working and relaxing!

Best wishes,

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## *The Sound and the Fury* close reading

The novel should be read (and annotated) by August 8<sup>th</sup>. For this novel, I recommend that you read a **plot summary** prior to reading in order to avoid frustration. However, do not rely upon internet analysis sites because they will not help you in a close reading analysis. As a matter of fact, they will detract from your ability to develop your own close reading skills.

### **A few notes to make the initial reading easier:**

- There are two Quentins: Caddy's brother and Caddy's daughter.
- There are two characters named "Maury" (Benjy before 1900 and Mrs. Compson's brother, "Uncle Maury" Bascomb)
- Each section is told in stream of consciousness style.
- The first section is told from Benjy's perspective and jumps around in time; a change in font signals a change in time.
- Shifts in time can also be identified by who is taking care of Benjy: Versh when Benjy is a small child, T.P. when Benjy is approximately 15 years old, and Luster in the present, when Benjy is 33.
- **Focus less on creating a firm initial sense of what happened and more on how the structure of Benjy's thoughts influence your sense of the Compson family's place in time and in culture.**

**Read this novel twice-** it is like a puzzle. Once you get to the third section, the pieces will start falling into place. **Annotate the second reading.** If you don't like puzzles, you may want to read a plot summary prior to reading.

### **Elements to look for (and annotate) during your reading:**

- Narrative structure
- Voice/Point of View
- Characterization of Benjy, Quentin, Jason, Dilsey, and Caddy
- How does the decline of the Southern Compson family portray the changing the American South?
- Time
- Symbolism
- Southern womanhood/femininity
- Southern honor/chivalry/masculinity

## *The Tragedy of Macbeth* reading assignment (due Sept. 12<sup>th</sup>)

You are responsible for reading, rereading, and annotating William Shakespeare's tragedy *Macbeth* by September 12<sup>th</sup>, 2018. The language is difficult, but the themes and messages are universal and are still relevant to our society today. **If you do not understand, read the passage a second time, and then a third. You are not allowed to read one time and say, "I don't get it."** It is critical that you read the play in its entirety *as Shakespeare wrote it*. Do not rely solely on *No Fear Shakespeare* or SparkNotes, as those resources will not help you with doing a close reading analysis.

As you are reading, pay close attention to (and annotate)

- light and dark imagery (as with any Shakespeare play!)
- disorder of the universe
- nature/unnatural
- blood motif
- equivocation/false face motif
- gender roles/masculinity and femininity
- animal/bird imagery
- clothing motif

### *Macbeth*

ISBN

0140714782 (ISBN13: 9780140714784)

Published by Penguin Books, 2000



### *The Sound and the Fury*

ISBN

1983732141

Published by Vintage, 2011

