

DeWitt Clinton High School  
Advanced Placement Literature and Composition  
Summer Reading Assignment  
Due September 9, 2016  
Instructor Ms. Del Duca  
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Welcome to Advanced Placement Literature and Composition! The course you are about to take is rigorous and will require you to **assume responsibility for completing all reading and writing assignments inside and outside of class**. In order to be prepared to engage in close reading and critical analysis of the texts we will be examining, you are being given two summer assignments. All work is to be typed using Times New Roman 12 point font and double spaced.

### **Bible Stories**

Writers often draw inspiration from the Bible and create allusions, metaphors, characters, plots and themes that relate back to the Bible Stories. In order to help you to effectively analyze certain literary works, you must read each of the selections below and summarize each story. At the beginning of each summary you should clearly identify whether the story is from the Old or New Testament, the title of the story, and the chapter number.

It is highly recommended that you use the New Jerusalem Bible, which can be found online at <https://newjerusalem Bibleonline.wuru.wordpress.com/> However, you may use any edition online or in hard text.

#### Selections from the Old Testament

1. Garden of Eden	Genesis	Chapters 1-3
2. Cain and Abel	Genesis	Chapter 4
3. Noah and the Flood	Genesis	Chapter 6-9
4. Tower of Babel	Genesis	Chapter 11
5. Sodom and Gomorrah	Genesis	Chapter 18-19
6. Abraham and Isaac	Genesis	Chapters 21-22
7. Joseph/Coat of Many Colors	Genesis	Chapter 37
8. Rescue of Moses	Exodus	Chapters 1-2
9. The Passover	Exodus	Chapters 11-13
10. Passage/Red Sea	Exodus	Chapter 14
11. Samson and Delilah	Judges	Chapters 14-16
12. David and Goliath	Samuel	Chapters 17
13. Solomon's Wisdom	Kings	Chapter 3
14. Testing of Job	Job	Chapters 1-2

#### Selections from the New Testament

15. Birth of Christ	Luke	Chapters 1-2
16. The Good Samaritan	Luke	Chapter 10:25-37
17. Prodigal Son	Luke	Chapter 15
18. Jesus and Lazarus	John	Chapter 11
19. Death of John the Baptist	Mark	Chapter 6
20. The Last Supper	Mark	Chapter 14
21. Crucifixion and Resurrection	Matthew	Chapter 27, 28

(Note: We study these stories for non-religious purposes only, in order to increase our understanding of literature.)

### **The Novel**

In this course, it will be important to learn how to respond to essay prompts that deal with fictional works of literature. Therefore, you are to read the novel *The Great Gatsby* by F. Scott Fitzgerald closely and respond to one of the following essay questions:

- A. In retrospect, a reader often discovers that the first chapter of a novel introduces some of the central ideas or motifs that will be developed in the novel. Explain how the first chapter of *The Great Gatsby* functions in this way.

or

- B. In many works of literature, the significance of the title becomes apparent gradually. Write an essay demonstrating the significance of the title *The Great Gatsby* to the work as whole. Consider discussing how the author's use of allusion, contrast, repetition and point of view help to reveal the title's significance.

Your essay should be between 2 and 3 pages.

It is highly suggested that you purchase the novel and make annotations that you can refer back to when writing your essay. However, it can also be found online at the following web address:  
[https://ebooks.adelaide.edu.au/f/fitzgerald/f\\_scott/gatsby/](https://ebooks.adelaide.edu.au/f/fitzgerald/f_scott/gatsby/)

(Note: Please do not watch the movie instead of reading the book!)

Each of the summer assignments will be counted as part of your grade for the first marking period and you will be assessed on each reading assignment when you return to school in September.

Essay Writing Reminders:

- Your opening paragraph must contain a thesis statement. A strong thesis statement is an assertion that is not self-evident and that your essay must prove.
- The arguments in your essay should reflect your active reading and understanding of the entire novel as well as one or more of its overall themes and/or motifs.
- Your supporting arguments must have specific and strong evidence from the book. You may use short direct quotes or paraphrase evidence.
- Citation form page #'s: (150) or (48-49). The period goes after the parenthesis.
- Commas and semi-colons always go inside quotation marks.
- Use transitional words or phrases to connect sentences and paragraphs when needed.
- Proof read your work several times. Do not rely on spell and grammar check.
- Edit and revise carefully on the hard copy first, before typing in corrections.
- The number of body paragraphs is determined by what you have to say.

If you have any questions over the summer, please email me at the address provided.

Have a great summer! I am looking forward to working with you in September.