

AP Literature Summer Reading Requirement

Required Reading – The Poisonwood Bible by Barbara Kingsolver *ISBN 0-06-078650-7*

On the first day of class the following **TWO** assignments are **DUE**. During the first few days of class, you will use your text for discussions and for an in-class writing activity. By the second week of school this text will be used to research literary criticism from two polar points of view revealing how one work can offer such a broad spectrum of acceptance or rejection. Later in the year this text will be used as a companion to As I Lay Dying by William Faulkner when we will study characterization and practice comparison/contrast techniques.

Assignment One – In-Text Annotations for a Daily Grade

Using methods such as highlighting, underlining, margin commentary, questioning, and inferences, make in-text annotations covering the entire work. These comments should reflect thoughts about the actions, motivation, and growth of characters. These comments should also identify and follow themes, conflicts, and other literary elements possibly including but not limited to paradox, symbolism, allusion, tone, etc.

Assignment Two – Character/Theme Journal for a Test Grade

This journal will be used by you as a resource for writing an in-class essay. You may choose to draw a symbol in the margin of the text for passages that fit the journal requirements. You can go back and select the most expressive, insightful, or meaningful passages for your journal entries. ** Be careful to select the most revealing entries.

Part One – Character Analysis (60%)

- Select one character for in-depth analysis.
- Use quotation marks around quotes and cite page numbers.
- Identify passages throughout the entire text. A progression of the character's development should be evident.

Using the 3 headings 1) *What the character says (WORDS)*, 2) *What the character does (ACTIONS)*, and 3) *What others say about the character (INTERACTIONS)*, prepare 5 entries under each of the three headings (**15 total entries**).

An entry consists of a quotation, a page citation, and a brief (3 to 5 sentence) commentary on what this example reveals about the character.

Part Two – Theme Analysis (40%)

- Select one theme for in-depth analysis. Possible themes include: guilt, cultural arrogance of the West, pantheism, scriptural references, and others.
- Use quotation marks around quotes and cite page numbers.
- Identify passages throughout the entire text. A progression of the theme's development should be evident.

Prepare **10 entries** that exemplify the selected theme. An entry consists of a quotation, a page citation, and a brief (3 to 5 sentence) commentary on what this example reveals about the theme.

Questions may be directed to Mrs. Tinkler at CTinkler@westburychristian.org