

NB: When buying books for the school year, students must purchase the Davis-Kidd editions of the required novels so that the whole class has the same edition when studying the book.

The Harpeth Hall School
Summer Reading 2009-2010
English III: Junior English

Requirements For English III : (English III Honors follows)

- ***What the World Eats*** by Faith D'Aluisio and Peter Menzel. Juniors are required to read this book and complete the project described for the **All-School Read**.

- **Sign up for one Teacher-Sponsored book.** Choose one (1). Be prepared to discuss the book in Harkness style, in a small group, on the first day of school. A complete list of the possible books one might sign up to read can be found on the Harpeth Hall web site. No changes in your selection can be made after June 15. New students should contact Ms. Girgus, (girgus@harpethhall.org or 383-1751) or Ms. Donna Clark, (dclark@harpethhall.org) when they have made their choice. If a student wishes to discuss which choice to make, she should feel free to get in touch with Ms. Girgus.

- ***Dr. Jekyll and Mr. Hyde*** by Robert Louis Stevenson

- ***A Picture of Dorian Gray*** by Oscar Wilde

- **Instructions for reading *Dr. Jekyll and Mr. Hyde* and *A Picture of Dorian Gray*:**
 - Read over the essay topic before you begin the novels. Then keep in mind what you are asked to write about and jot down a few ideas while you are reading. The following two exercises should help you in preparing to write your essay.

 - As you read *Dr. Jekyll and Mr. Hyde* and *Picture of Dorian Gray*, consider the conflict between good and evil. Find specific textual examples (i.e. direct quotations) throughout these books that illustrate this conflict. List eight (8) quotations (four [4] per book) that deal with the clash between good and evil. Remember to put the page numbers in parenthesis after quotations.

 - Make a list of at least twelve (12) films, books, or other works of art that address the theme of duality or doubles seen in these two novels. (For example, *The Incredible Hulk* comic strip and Alfred Hitchcock's *Psycho* each tell the story of a character with a hidden dark side.)

continued

- **Instructions for writing the *Dr. Jekyll and Mr. Hyde* and *The Picture of Dorian Gray* essay:** Comment on this conflict between good and evil in these two novels. Which side is stronger? Write a 3-5 page, double-spaced essay in which you explore the theme of duality in each of these works. You must include specific information from the texts, but you may also include examples from personal experiences, history, literature, or any other relevant source. Create a clear, provable thesis that defines the role that good vs. evil plays in the novels. Your essay should include a wide-ranging vocabulary with a variety of sentence structures. The essay should be logically organized and effectively supported with evidence (quotations) from both books. Be sure to follow each quotation with a parenthetical citation of the page number. Do not use outside sources—other than the novels—in composing this essay. The ideas presented in your essay must be your own. Please use a reader friendly 12 point font.

All summer work is due the first day of class in August.

Honors English III Summer Reading

Juniors enrolled in Honors English III will read four (4) books over the summer:

- 1) **All School Read:** *What the World Eats* by Faith D’Aluisio and Peter Menzel
- 2) Faculty Sponsored Choice Book (you signed up for this in the spring)
- 3) *Jane Eyre* by Charlotte Bronte
- 4) *Wide Sargasso Sea* by Jean Rhys (*read *Jane Eyre* before this novel)

Instructions for reading *Jane Eyre* and *Wide Sargasso Sea*:

- It is essential that you read *Jane Eyre* **before** reading *Wide Sargasso Sea*, which builds upon Bronte’s earlier novel.
- As you read *Jane Eyre* and *Wide Sargasso Sea*, look for and mark the following motifs, which appear in both novels: birds, fire, mirrors, dreams, and nature.
- Create a written timeline of the history of colonization of Jamaica. *Wide Sargasso Sea* is set in Jamaica in the 1830’s. Before beginning this novel, look up information online about the history of colonization of this island. What was the “Emancipation Act”? Who are the different groups of people who are living in Jamaica in the 1800’s?
- Read the essay question below before you begin the novels. Then keep in mind what you are asked to write about, and jot down a few ideas while you are reading.
- Read the novels carefully. When you return to school in August, you will have a quiz over *Jane Eyre* and *Wide Sargasso Sea*.

Writing Instructions for *Jane Eyre* and *Wide Sargasso Sea*:

This summer you will read *Jane Eyre* and *Wide Sargasso Sea*, two novels set during the middle of the 19th century. *Jane Eyre* takes place in England, while *Wide Sargasso Sea* is set in Jamaica and England. In addition to the parallel settings, both books share common characters. Jean Rhys, the author of *Wide Sargasso Sea*, was inspired to write her novel after reading *Jane Eyre*. Rhys' novel examines the life of Bertha Antoinette Mason, who appears as a minor character in the second half of the novel *Jane Eyre*. Despite these commonalities, the two novels were written more than a century apart in vastly different prose styles.

Write a 3-to-5 page essay (double-spaced) which explores the connection between these parallel stories. Choose one of the following motifs as a common thread between the novels: *birds, fire, mirrors, dreams, or nature*. How does your chosen motif reflect the emotional journey of each protagonist? How does the motif reveal similarities or differences in their experiences? Create a clear, provable thesis that defines the role that your motif plays in the novels. Your essay should include a wide-ranging vocabulary with a variety of sentence structures. The essay should be logically organized and effectively supported with evidence (quotations) from both books. Be sure to follow each quotation with a parenthetical citation of the page number. Do not use outside sources -- other than the two novels -- in composing this essay. The ideas presented in your essay must be your own.

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