

# English 12 Fall 2008

## Activities for 1<sup>st</sup> Literature Circle

### Directions:

For the first literature circle, your group must complete five sets of activities in five weeks as analysis of the first literary texts you have chosen to read this semester. This is not a divide-and-conquer assignment; all group members need to participate in all three activities for each assignment. Your group must combine its work into one Microsoft Word document for submission. Documents must be formatted in MLA style. In the header and heading must appear the names of all group members, and the title must include the name of the literary work that you are reading.

Each set of activities focuses on one literary element:

- *character*
- *setting*
- *conflict*
- *style*
- *theme*

Activities 1 and 2 always focus on quotations and vocabulary from the text.

Activity 3 is a more creative activity related to the literary focus of the week.

### 1. Quotation Analysis:

Each group member must contribute at least two quotations of significance; then, your **group discusses** the choices, **comes to consensus** as to their importance, and submits two quotation per group member in the following format. This element of the assignment is worth 20 points.

### 2. Vocabulary Activity:

Locate vocabulary in your reading for this week that is **unfamiliar to all members of your group**. You must submit three words per group member. This element of the assignment is worth 10 points.

- Identify the word.
- Write the sentence from the book with the word in it and indicate page and paragraph number.
- Write the definition(s) of the word. If multiple definitions exist, choose the definition that fits the context of the book's sentence.
- Together with your group, create a sentence using the new word in proper context.

### 3. Creative Task:

Group members **work together** to complete a creative activity of literary analysis. This element of the assignment is worth 15 points.

### Media Center Dates:

- Th 9/14/08 & F 9/15/08
- W 10/1/08 & Th 10/02/08

### Due Dates:

- Tu 9/2/08 & W 9/3/08, setting assignment
- Tu 9/9/08 & W 9/10/08, characterization assignment
- Tu 9/16/08 & W 9/17/08, conflict assignment
- Tu 9/23/08 & W 9/24/08, style assignment
- Tu 9/30/08 & W 10/1/08, theme assignment

### **Literature Circle 1, Setting Assignment**

1. For each group member, locate two quotations that reveals the setting in your novel. Explain what the quotation suggests about the setting and its impact on the protagonist and the meaning of the work. Remember that setting is much more than location and may include social environment, occupations, culture, and moral attitudes.
2. Locate vocabulary in your reading for this week that is unfamiliar to all members of your group. You must submit the vocabulary activities (sentence from text, contextually accurate definition, and sentence of your own creation) for three words per group member.
3. Identify four physical objects that are essential to the setting of the work and which represent one of the elements of setting listed below. For each, explain what the object reveals about the specific element of setting and how the object helps to evoke a mood or atmosphere in the work. Specific elements of the setting include:
  - the geographical location (its topography, scenery, and physical arrangements),
  - the occupations and daily manner of living of the characters,
  - the time period in which the action takes place (epoch in history or season of the year), and
  - the general environment of the characters (social, religious, cultural, moral, and emotional conditions and attitudes).

### **Literature Circle 1, Characterization Assignment**

1. For each group member, find two quotations that portray the character of the protagonist. Explain what the quotation reveals about the main character and the meaning of the work.
2. Locate vocabulary in your reading for this week that is unfamiliar to all members of your group. You must submit the vocabulary activities (sentence from text, contextually accurate definition, and sentence of your own creation) for three words per group member.
3. Create a personalized license plate for the protagonist, which may contain no punctuation marks or symbols and which consists of no more than seven letters, seven numbers, or a combination thereof. Explain why your license plate is apt for the character.

### **Literature Circle 1, Conflict Assignment**

1. For each group member, identify two quotations that describe crucial conflict in your work. Explain what the quotation reveals about the internal or external conflict that the protagonist experiences and describe the significance of this conflict to the meaning of the work.
2. Locate vocabulary in your reading for this week that is unfamiliar to all members of your group. You must submit the vocabulary activities (sentence from text, contextually accurate definition, and sentence of your own creation) for three words per group member.
3. Write five headlines that describe conflicts (their causes and effects) in this section of your reading. Be sure to use a vivid verb in each headline to clearly capture the action of the section. Here's an example to describe conflict in *Beowulf*: "Beast attacks mead hall, butchers thirty warriors." For each headline, write an explanation about the two forces in opposition.

### **Literature Circle 1, Style Assignment**

1. For each group member, select two quotations as examples the author's style (point of view, syntax, diction, tone, allusion, figurative language, imagery, repetition, etc.). Explain how the superior style of the quotation enhances the meaning of the quotation.
2. Locate vocabulary in your reading for this week that is unfamiliar to all members of your group. You must submit the vocabulary activities (sentence from text, contextually accurate definition, and sentence of your own creation) for three words per group member.
3. Reveal the growth and development of a character from your work. Write a description of the character's transformation using figurative language (metaphor, simile, hyperbole, understatement, synecdoche, metonymy, paradox, allusion). Following your description, identify which literary device(s) you have used.

### **Literature Circle 1, Theme Assignment**

1. For each group member, choose two quotations that most clearly reveal the theme in your work. Explain how the quotation reveals the meaning and relates to the protagonist's growth.
2. Locate vocabulary in your reading for this week that is unfamiliar to all members of your group. You must submit the vocabulary activities (sentence from text, contextually accurate definition, and sentence of your own creation) for three words per group member.
3. Write a persuasive email to the senior class about what central idea this book has taught you. Your task is to convince them to read this book. Follow proper email format by following the instructions on page 313 of *Writers INC*.