

12th Grade IB Literature
Summer Reading Assignment: 2021-2022

The following is your summer reading assignment for English next year. I ask that you set the goal to read once a day for at least 20-30 minutes. Please feel free to contact me this summer if you have any questions or concerns. I can be reached by e-mail at hruedi@uplifteducation.org.

Summer Reading Texts:

1. *Invisible Man* by Ralph Ellison
2. Collection of poems written by selected poet (Read and annotate 10 poems)

Reading Assignment:

- A. Read and annotate the assigned novel.
- B. As you read, annotate:
 - a. Read and annotate very carefully because we will be discussing and analyzing both novels in class. ***You will be able to use your annotated texts for a graded discussion first quarter.***
 - b. Marking and annotating a text is like having a conversation with a book—it allows the reader to ask questions, comment on meaning, and mark passages to revisit.

How to Annotate:

- Make brief notes on the page or on a sticky note marking important plot events, narrative shifts, or themes, images, and details that form a pattern throughout the text (motif).
- Circle words that are unfamiliar or unusual—try to figure out the word’s meaning through contextual clues and supplement with a dictionary.

Writing Assignment Part 1: Selected Poet HL Essay Outline

Choose one of the following prompts and **write a detailed outline** in response to your chosen prompt. Using this outline, you will write an HL Essay in the first few weeks of Q1. You may borrow from your class reflections, Paper 1 practices, and outlining for an independent oral presentation.

Your outline should be in 12 pt. font, Times New Roman, double-spaced, MLA formatting (with Works Cited page). **The outline should be between 400 - 500 words.** Please include an appropriate heading and title.

Please refer to my attached guide and exemplar for writing a detailed outline.

1. Regarding the nature of a poem, Robert Frost wrote the following in a letter to his close friend, Louis Untermeyer:

*“A poem...begins as a lump in the throat, a sense of wrong, a homesickness, a lovesickness. **It is a reaching-out toward expression; an effort to find fulfillment.** A complete poem is one where an emotion finds the thought and the thought finds the words.”*

To what extent does your selected poet's body of work reflect "an effort to find fulfillment", or any one of the features broadly described by Frost? Consider the implications of "fulfillment" as Frost uses the phrase. He may refer to spiritual, emotional, or physical fulfillment; he may be speaking of a sort of freedom or peace in either a societal or personal sense. Look carefully at the focus and development of the speakers in your selected poet's body of work as you contemplate this idea of "fulfillment".

Please be sure to analyze the meaning conveyed by distinct literary features evident in your selected poet's body of work. **Be sure to discuss at least two poems** in your response.

- Concerning the role of poetry in our modern and politically turbulent world, William Faulkner claimed the following in his Nobel Prize speech (the entire speech is attached):

*"...I believe that man will not merely endure: he will prevail. He is immortal, not because he alone among creatures has an inexhaustible voice, but because he has a soul, a spirit capable of compassion and sacrifice and endurance. **The poet's, the writer's, duty is to write about these things. It is his privilege to help man endure by lifting his heart, by reminding him of the courage and honor and hope and pride and compassion and pity and sacrifice which have been the glory of his past. The poet's voice need not merely be the record of man, it can be one of the props, the pillars to help him endure and prevail.**"*

To what extent does your selected poet's body of work reflect "the poet's duty" according to Faulkner? Please be sure to analyze the meaning conveyed by distinct literary features evident in your selected poet's body of work. **Be sure to discuss at least two poems** in your response.

- In an interview concerning the importance of writing and poetry, James Baldwin commented the following:

"I also realized that to try to be a writer (which involves, after all, disturbing the peace) was political, whether one liked it or not; because if one is doing anything at all, one is trying to change the consciousness of other people. You're trying also to change your own consciousness. You have to use your consciousness, you have to trust it to the extent—enough to begin to talk; and you talk with the intention of beginning a ferment, beginning a disturbance in someone else's mind so that he sees the situation..."

***The poet or the revolutionary is there to articulate the necessity, but until the people themselves apprehend it, nothing can happen... Perhaps it can't be done without the poet, but it certainly can't be done without the people. The poet and the people get on generally very badly, and yet they need each other. **The poet knows it sooner than the people do.** The people usually know it after the poet is dead; but that's all right. The point is to get your work done, and your work is to change the world.**"*

To what extent does your chosen poet's body of work reflect the political nature of writing as expressed by James Baldwin? How does your chosen poet attempt to "change the consciousness of other people" or to "articulate the necessity"? For this prompt, you might consider the "global issues" explored in your poet's body of work! (See my attached guided on "global issues")

Please be sure to analyze the meaning conveyed by distinct literary features evident in your selected poet's body of work. **Be sure to discuss at least two poems** in your response.

Writing Assignment Part 2: *Invisible Man* Short Response

Select ONE of the following questions regarding *Invisible Man* and write a short essay response (600-700 words, IB Literature; 500-600 word, English IV). You must focus your analysis on scenes from Chapter 8 through the Epilogue.

At the beginning of Q1 you will have a Summer Reading Exam where you respond to a second question in a timed writing.

1. Invisible Man insists that juxtaposing himself against the light proves and illuminates his existence. He alleges, “Light confirms my reality, gives birth to my form Without light I am not only invisible, but formless as well; and to be unaware of one’s form is to live a death” (Ellison 6-7). **How does light, dark(ness), blindness, and invisibility shape and inform the narrator of *Invisible Man*’s identity and attitudes?**
2. One of the concepts in the novel is how an individual discovers his or her identity. Invisible Man states that “my problem was that I always tried to go in everyone’s way but my own. I have also been called one thing and then another while no one really wished to hear what I called myself. So after years of trying to adopt the opinions of others I finally rebelled. I am an invisible man” (Ellison 573).

By choosing to become “invisible,” does Invisible Man fulfill his agenda of determining his own identity? Or is his invisibility yet another form of identity thrust upon him by others and/or society? **Does the narrator of *Invisible Man* base his identity and reality on self-reflection, or is his self-perception constructed by how others see or do not see him?** Focus your analysis on one scene in the novel to develop your argument.

3. How does Invisible Man respond in some significant way to justice or injustice? **Analyze the narrator’s understanding of justice and the degree to which his search for justice is successful.** Focus your analysis on one scene in the novel to develop your argument.
4. One definition of madness is mental delusion or the eccentric behavior arising from it. Yet, Emily Dickinson wrote, “Much Madness is divinest Sense— / To a discerning Eye—.” Novelists and playwrights have often seen madness with a “discerning Eye.” How does Invisible Man’s apparent madness or irrational behavior play an important role in the novel? Is his behavior the result of insanity and/or fury? What does this delusional or eccentric behavior consist of, and how might it be judged as actually reasonable and sane? **Explain the significance of the madness to the work as a whole.**
5. To what extent does Ellison’s novel explore Dubois’ notion of “double-consciousness”? **Does the novel offer any insight into Dubois’ existential theme?** Focus your analysis on one scene in the novel to develop your argument.

Written Response Rubric			
Content & Analysis			
0 - Insufficient	1 - Partially Sufficient	2 - Sufficient	3 - Exemplary
Below 34	35-39	40 - 44	45-50
<p>Answer: --not based on selections --not reasonable --too general or vague to see if it is reasonable --incomplete or irrelevant textual evidence from one or both selections --incorrect or vague analysis of text --lacks clarity</p>	<p>Answer: --reasonable assertions based on both selections but general, incomplete, or partially accurate/relevant textual evidence from one or both selections, or no support at all --evidence from both selections is only weakly connected --accurate/relevant evidence from both selections with no idea or analysis/evaluation --somewhat unclear/vague or show trouble making connections b/w selections</p>	<p>Answer: --reasonable assertions based on both selections with accurate/relevant textual support from both selections --reasonable analysis/evaluation of textual characteristic based on both selections with accurate/relevant textual support from both selections --clear and specific connections across selections</p>	<p>Answer: --particularly thoughtful or insightful idea based on both selections, strongly supported with accurate/relevant textual evidence from both selections --particularly thoughtful or insightful analysis of textual characteristic based on both selections, strongly supported with accurate/relevant textual evidence from both selections --student can make meaningful connections across selections --demonstrate student's depth of understanding --effective connection of evidence to idea/analysis/evaluation</p>
Grammar & Structure			
0 - Insufficient	1 - Partially Sufficient	2 - Sufficient	3 - Exemplary
Below 34	35-39	40 - 44	45-50
<p>Answer: -- Entry falters in three or more of the particulars: it may not sufficiently place passage in literal context, it may not blend words/phrases from passage into entry, or transitions between sentences may be unclear. -- Style falters in three or more particulars: syntax may lack variation, sentences may rely on passive or be verbs, vocabulary may be vague or immature, grammar/mechanics might demonstrate errors.</p>	<p>Answer: -- Entry falters in two or more of the particulars: it may not sufficiently place passage in literal context, it may not blend words/phrases from passage into entry, or transitions between sentences may be unclear. -- Style falters in two or more particulars: syntax may lack variation, sentences may rely on passive or be verbs, vocabulary may be vague or immature, grammar/mechanics might demonstrate errors.</p>	<p>Answer: -- Entry falters in one or more of the particulars: it may not sufficiently place passage in literal context, it may not blend words/phrases from passage into entry, or transitions between sentences may be unclear. -- Style is generally clear, but it falters in one or more of the particulars: syntax may lack variation, sentences may rely on passive or be verbs, vocabulary may be vague or immature, grammar/mechanics might demonstrate errors.</p>	<p>Answer: -- Entry follows expository paragraph form: a clear topic sentence relating to the passage, transition places passage in literal context, sentences blend words/phrases from passage into analysis, clear transitions between sentences (word glue) -- Style is mature and clear: sentences show varied syntax, strong verbs, precise vocabulary, and grammatical/mechanical correctness.</p>

Ruedi 2021-2022