

Summer Assignment for 11th grade AICE English Literature 9695

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Welcome! Over the course of the next year, you will be predominately studying three types of text: Poetry, Prose, and Drama. You will have two exams: Paper 1 (Drama and Poetry) and Paper 2 (Prose and an Unseen). By completing the summer assignment, you begin to prepare for your time in class as well as your AICE exams. Please remember to give these assignments your best effort, as it gives insight into your writing style and preparedness.

In order to get a jumpstart on the reading coursework, I am asking that you purchase “Howard’s End” by E. M. Forster to read over the summer. Your first prose paper essay will be due on this at the end of August. (This book runs about 8\$.) Here is the link for the book on Amazon, but feel to purchase elsewhere: [HOWARD'S END](#)

Additionally, I am asking for you to submit a writing sample as your first grade in the class. It will be due the first Friday of class. (Take advantage- this means you have ALL summer to work on it!)

Below is a poem by John Dryden. Please read this poem and answer the questions that follow in essay format (500-600 words). This should not be a question/response assignment but instead try to create an essay that “flows” to show an in-depth analysis of the poem.

**Essays should be typed, double-spaced, TNR 12-point black font only.*

Farewell, Ungrateful Traitor- John Dryden

Farewell, ungrateful traitor!
Farewell, my perjurd swain!
Let never injurd woman
Believe a man again.
The pleasure of possessing
Surpasses all expressing,
But 'tis too short a blessing,
And love too long a pain.

'Tis easy to deceive us
In pity of your pain,
But when we love, you leave us
To rail at you in vain.
Before we have descried it,
There is no joy beside it,
But she that once has tried it
Will never love again.

The passion you pretended
Was only to obtain,
But once the charm is ended,
The charmer you disdain.
Your love by ours we measure
Till we have lost our treasure,
But dying is a pleasure
When living is a pain

Questions to Consider

1. Who is the speaker (*voice*--not always the poet)? What does the poem reveal about the speaker's character? In some poems the speaker may be nothing more than a voice meditating on a theme, while in others the speaker takes on a specific personality.
2. Is the speaker addressing a particular person? If so, who is that person and why is the speaker interested in him or her? Many poems are addressed to no one in particular and therefore to anyone, any reader. Others, while addressed to a specific person, reveal nothing about the person because the focus of the poem is on the speaker's feelings and attitudes.
3. Does the poem have a setting? Is the poem occasioned by a particular event? The answer to these questions will often be 'no' for lyric poems. It will always be 'yes' if the poem is a dramatic monologue or a poem that tells or implies a story.
4. Is the theme of the poem stated directly or indirectly? Some poems use language in a fairly straightforward and literal way and state the theme, often in the final lines. Others may conclude with a statement of the theme that is more difficult to apprehend because it is made with figurative language and/or symbols.
5. From what perspective (or point of view) is the speaker describing specific events? Is the speaker recounting events of the past or events that are occurring in the present? If the past events are being recalled, what present meaning do they have for the speaker?
6. Does a close examination of the figurative language of the poem reveal any patterns? What do you note?
7. What is the structure of the poem? Since narrative poems--those that tell stories--reveal a high degree of selectivity, it is useful to ask yourself why the poet has focused on particular details and left out others.

8. What do sound and meter contribute to the poem?

9. What was your response to the poem on the first reading? Why do you think the author wrote this?