

11th Grade Honors American Literature

Summer Reading Assignment 2018

Mrs. Bradley

For your summer reading assignment, you will be reading the novel, *Invisible Man*, by Ralph Ellison. You do not need to use a specific ISBN. Any print version will do. You may also use an on-line version if it is broken into individual pages that you will be able to reference for the assignment.

For this assignment you will be compiling a collection of notecards that record specific quotes related to various literary elements from the novel. You will then be organizing these notecards based on thesis statements which you will receive during the first week of class and will use the cards for your first paper assignment. The instructions for the notecards are listed below. **Your collection of notecards will be due the FIRST DAY OF SCHOOL (SEPT. 4), regardless of which semester you have English class.** If you have any questions about the assignment, make sure to contact me sooner rather than later. The novel is extensive, so start early and pace yourself. **Cards submitted late will receive a deduction of one letter grade each day late. This assignment will count as a test grade during the 1st MP.** It will also be used to complete your first paper assignment for class (which is another test grade). So make sure to take it seriously.

YOU WILL NEED:

- pack of 100 3x5 notecards
- 6 different colored highlighters (yellow, orange, green, pink, blue, purple) **You will need these for the semester too.

INSTRUCTIONS:

- You should record only ONE quote per notecard. However, that quote may be more than one sentence in length.
- On one side of the notecard record the quote verbatim as well as the page #.
- On this same side (quote side), place a colored highlighter mark that corresponds to the type of element you are quoting. See corresponding elements and colors listed below.
- On the other side of the notecard, give a short note on the context of the quote. (What is going on in the novel at that point? To what is the quote referring? Etc.)

LITERARY ELEMENTS:

You will need to document quotes that exemplify each of the following elements. The number of examples and the color to code them is listed as well.

- 1. MOTIF:** A motif is any element that repeats throughout the text. It could be an image, a phrase, an object, an idea, etc. The key is that it is seen repeatedly throughout the text (so more than 3 times). You need to find 5 DIFFERENT motifs in the novel and have at least 4 quotes documenting each one. That's a total of at least 20 notecards all together. These motif cards should be color-coded with YELLOW.
- 2. SYMBOL:** A symbol is when a concrete thing is used to represent a larger concept. For example, a brief case might represent a career, or a specific character might represent a particular group in society. You need to find 5 DIFFERENT symbols that are used throughout the novel. If the larger concept that is being symbolized is not evident within the quote you are referencing, make sure to note the concept in parentheses at the end of the quote. These symbol cards should be color-coded with ORANGE.
- 3. IRONY:** There are 3 types of irony. SITUATIONAL IRONY is a difference between what is expected to happen and what actually happens. DRAMATIC IRONY is when the reader understands something about a situation or character that the characters in the text do not. And VERBAL IRONY is a character states one thing but really means the opposite

(sarcasm). You need to find 10 DIFFERENT quotes that show irony. You may want to add an explanation in parentheses on the card that helps you remember why your example is ironic. These irony cards should be color-coded with GREEN.

4. ALLUSION: An allusion is a reference to something the author assumes most readers will be familiar with. These typically refer to historical events/figures, religion (Bible), mythology, etc. You need to find 5 DIFFERENT quotes that show examples of allusion throughout the novel. These allusion cards should be color-coded with PINK.

5. THEME: A theme is an underlying message that the author wants to convey to the reader with the text. Themes ARE NOT one word ideas. For example, “death” is NOT a theme. The theme would be the message the author wants to convey about death. You need to find 3 DIFFERENT themes throughout the novel AND find 5 QUOTES that illustrate each theme. That is a total of at least 15 cards on theme. These theme cards should be color-coded with BLUE.

6. CONFLICT: Throughout the play there are numerous examples of conflict. Some may be INTERNAL (when a character is struggling with opposing forces within themselves), and some may be EXTERNAL (when a character is in conflict with either another character, society, nature, etc.). You need to find 15 DIFFERENT examples of conflict throughout the novel. These conflict cards should be color-coded with PURPLE.

7. EPIPHANY: An epiphany is that “a-ha” moment when the “lightbulb” goes off. It is when a character comes to a sudden realization. You need to find 5 DIFFERENT examples of epiphanies throughout the novel. These epiphany cards will be plain—no highlighter color on them.

8. CITATION: Make your final notecard your Work Cited card. On this card, write your Work Cited entry for the Death of a Salesman book. Use proper MLA format.

*****REMEMBER THAT YOU SHOULD BE DOCUMENTING SPECIFIC VERBATIM QUOTES THAT ILLUSTRATE THESE LITERARY ELEMENTS. DO NOT SUMMARIZE MOMENTS, EVENTS, ETC. THAT IS PART OF THE CONTEXT YOU PROVIDE ON THE BACK OF THE CARD.**

When all cards are complete, bind them together in some way with your name on a card on top.