



TRINITY HIGH SCHOOL ENGLISH DEPARTMENT

2011 Summer Reading Requirement for IB Seniors

To continue the practice of active reading and to foster a love of literature, IB seniors are required to read two novels over the summer:

Things Fall Apart (ISBN 9780385474542) by Chinua Achebe
Pride and Prejudice (ISBN 9780393976045) by Jane Austen

As advanced students of literature, IB seniors are expected to read deeply and critically. Annotations should be clear and distinct and the highlighting limited to key passages which may include any of the following:

1. Word choice and sentence structure. Consider the effectiveness of the language used and the purpose it serves. What tone and/or mood is created?
2. Patterns of imagery and symbolism. What ideas do these patterns convey?
3. Details about setting, both time and place. What role does setting play in the story?
4. Literary techniques incorporated in the text, such as irony, paradox, satire, foreshadowing, personification, etc. Note the effects of these techniques.
5. Methods of characterization, including dialogue, appearance, attitude, and behavior. Write adjectives which describe the characters.
6. Internal and/or external conflicts the characters are involved in. How do they handle the conflicts? What does this say about their personalities?
7. The point of view: who is narrating and what is his/her relationship to the characters and events?
8. Narrative structure: chronological order, flashback, interior monologue, stream of consciousness, etc.
9. Themes or universal truths about the human condition.
10. Connections and/or allusions to other literary texts you have read or to relevant historical/cultural facts; interdisciplinary links are vital in the IB curriculum.

All students should be ready for an objective test on this reading at the beginning of the school year in homeroom, regardless of when their English class is scheduled. They should also bring their paperback editions of these novels to the first class meeting and be prepared to show evidence of active reading. A subsequent written test will be given. To facilitate class discussions, please purchase the editions indicated above. If you have any questions, please contact Ms. Rose Crnkovich, English Department Chairperson, at (708) 453-8392 or e-mail: ib@trinityhs.org.

Have a safe and happy summer! Enjoy the novels!

(over for College Prep English IV)

