



AP Language & Composition Summer 2016 Reading Assignment

Congrats – you're *almost* a Junior or Senior at PMSA!!!! Here is the reading assignment for this summer for all AP Language and Composition students:

- Check out the book *Interpreter of Maladies* from Ms. Redmond or Ms. Stelter:
 - In the bookroom during Finals Days (Before or after school - May 20, 23, 24)
 - After Finals in the Main Office
- There are **TWO** parts to this assignment so read this document carefully. If you have questions feel free to email – rmarkus@pths209.org

Assignment One – Reading and Journaling (Due date: First Day of School, August 22nd / 40 points / NO LATE WORK ACCEPTED!

- Read the entire book over the summer. This book is a prize-winning collection of short stories. It is important to read all nine of them, as there will be a graded discussion on them when you return to school in August.
- Obtain a spiral notebook of at least 100 pages that will serve as your reading journal for this coming year. (This should be used for AP ENGLISH CLASS ONLY).

Formatting for Journals

- For each story, you are to create a set of notes only using the **front pages in your notebook**. IMPORTANT: PLEASE DO NOT WRITE ON THE BACKS – ONLY THE FRONT PAGES
- SIX SUBSTANTIAL entries for EACH of the stories.
- One journal entry = 2 or more sentences in length.

Journal Entry Topics

- *Ideas that the reading inspires or makes you think of*
- *Ideas regarding the themes of the book and what the author's message could be*
- *The language – the tone, the meanings, the author's style*
- *Culture connections – thoughts on how the story comments on society*
- *Lines/quotes that have meaning to you (make sure to explain why)*
- It is also STRONGLY recommended that you make the journal entries WHILE you are reading rather than after you finish the story. Include the page number that inspires each entry. **Strong readers in AP level classes are able to think about what they are reading while they read it.**
- The entries will be graded mostly on "quality"; try to make deep, meaningful comments. But you also will be graded on fulfillment of the required quantity. Follow the chart below to help guide your efforts.

<u>Strong Grade</u>	<u>Weak Grade</u>
Patterns in the Text	Basic Comments/Plot summary
New Ideas	Basic Reactions
Changes in Tone, Point of View, Writing Style (within story and from story to story)	Repeating what happened in the text
Important Supporting Details that lead to predictions	Too many simple questions
Impression of the Ending	"likes" and "dislikes"
Inclusion/Explanations of Quotes	Quotes just copied
Inclusion of page numbers	Exclusion of Page numbers

Assignment Two – Non-Fiction Article and Reflection Paper (Due date: First Day of School, August 22nd / 20 points)

- Select and read one article about a theme from any of the stories in the book. You must have a PRINTED copy of it for the first day of class.
 - Some ideas of where to look: *Newsweek, Time, The New Yorker, The Atlantic Monthly, The Chicago Tribune, The New York Times, The Wall Street Journal*, or other SCHOLARLY websites.
 - Avoid news websites such as *cnn.com* or *foxnews.com*
 - Your article MUST have an author and be at least two pages printed
 - Your article should be about one of the following book themes or one you select on your own, provided it fits the book:
 - Immigration – feelings of displacement and alienation
 - Culture – building bridges between different immigrant and/or native cultures
 - Identity – how it changes when migration is involved
 - Society and class – how it can be affected by cultural migration
 - Connections and family – the importance of human contact and relationships
 - Read and annotate your article – this will be checked and contribute to your grade.
 - Annotate the article for the themes above, and remember that annotating is NOT simply highlighting or underlining!
 - Handwrite or type a 1-2 page reflection paper in answer to the two questions below:
 - What is the writer’s viewpoint/opinion regarding the subject of the article and how did he/she express this viewpoint?
 - How does the article exhibit your chosen theme? What specifically are some of the connections between the article and the ideas in *Interpreter of Maladies*? Feel free to mention SHORT quotes from the article and explain how they match the theme.

The reflection will be graded on completeness, depth of thought, and integration of the themes of the novel.

Both assignments will also be used to contribute to a Harkness Table Discussion for credit the first week of school. If you haven’t read your book and completed the two assignments, you will not be able to participate in the ensuing graded discussions.