

	<p>PROVISO MATHEMATICS AND SCIENCE ACADEMY</p>	<p>8601 W. Roosevelt Road Forest Park, Illinois 60130 Office: 708.338-4100 Fax: 708.338-4199</p>
<p>"A CATALYST FOR GREATNESS"</p>		

English IV Literary Criticism and English IV Dual Credit
Summer 2017 Reading Assignment
Due Date: August 21, 2017

Congrats – you’re a senior at PMSA! Here is the summer reading assignment for English IV students:

This year's book is *Sula*, a novel by Toni Morrison. Two girls who grow up to become women. Two friends who become something worse than enemies. In this brilliantly imagined novel, Toni Morrison tells the story of Nel Wright and Sula Peace, who meet as children in the small town of Medallion, Ohio. Their devotion is fierce enough to withstand bullies and the burden of a dreadful secret. It endures even after Nel has grown up to be a pillar of the black community and Sula has become a pariah. But their friendship ends in an unforgivable betrayal—or does it end? Terrifying, comic, ribald and tragic, **Sula** is a work that overflows with life.

It is a rather short novel, just 174 pages, so it should be a rather quick read. We hope you enjoy it and we look forward to discussing it with you during the first week of class.

#1: Bring Book First Day of School = 10 points

- Purchase the book, which is available at many bookstores and libraries. It can also be ordered on Amazon or bn.com. Bring it to class on the first day of school. You will be awarded 10 points for having the book.
- Read the book and TYPE the Harkness Table written prep, as directed, over the summer.

#2 Harkness Table Written Prep: 60 points : NO LATE WORK ACCEPTED
(Due on the first day of class.)

Expect a Harkness Table on this book as an assessment of your understanding. Have one quote with page number, comment (2-3 lines) and question from each of the 12 chapters. Use the following format:

Introduction

1a. “A joke. A n--- joke. That was the way it got started. Not the town, of course, but that part of town where the Negroes lived, the part they called the Bottom in spite of the fact that it was up in the hills. Just a n—joke. They kind white folks tell when the mill closes down and they’re looking for a little comfort somewhere”(4).

1b. Much of the introduction focuses on establishing the setting of Bottom, and the irony of its name, how at first it seems to be the bottom of the world because Negroes live there, but instead it’s turned around to mean the bottom of heaven because the place is so beautiful.

1c. How does the description of this place establish the mood of the novel and foreshadow what is to come?

1919

- 2a.
- 2b.
- 2c.

#3: Question Instructions: 60 Entries = 60 points

These will be assigned during the first week of class as homework. We suggest you have them completed over the summer, but they will only be checked as homework assignments once we start discussing the book.

Short Answer Questions with Textual Evidence

- a. The 60 short answer questions require a one to two sentence answer.
- b. Support your answer with a quote from the text.
- c. Be sure to include a page number. This is called an in-text citation.

Introduction

1. What neighborhood is "Sula" set in?

- a. "Sula" is set in the neighborhood of Bottom.
- b. "It is called the suburbs now, but when black people lived there it was called the Bottom."
- c. pg. 3

2. What is the name of the town where the story takes place?

3. How did the people of the neighborhood named in #1 come to live there?

4. What was the problem with the land that the farmer gave away?

5. What did the farmer tell the slaves about the land?

6. How would the neighborhood be described as in the past?

1919

7. What is the date of National Suicide Day?

8. How does Shadrack's first encounter with the enemy go?

9. What causes Shadrack to be so frightened when he is in the hospital?

10. Why is Shadrack released from the hospital?

11. What is Shadrack given when he leaves the hospital after his year long stay?

12. Why is Shadrack arrested after his release from the hospital?

1920

13. Why does Helene's grandmother want her away from Sundown House?

14. Why does Helene get married to Wiley Wright?
15. Why does Helene return to see her grandmother?
16. What happens to Helene as she goes to see her grandmother?
17. What does Nel think about her grandmother?
18. What has been sparked in Nel?

1921

19. What has Eva done to her house over the past five years?
20. Why does Eva sit in a wagon?
21. Who are Eva's children in the novel "Sula?"
22. What happened to BoyBoy, Eva's husband?
23. Why does Eva call the three children she's rescued from the street by one name?
24. What is the story of Tar Baby?

1922

25. Who are the two characters who have become fast friends and why is this so strange?
26. Describe Sula and Nel in terms of their physical features and temperaments.
27. How does Sula show her protectiveness when the boys approach her and Nel?
28. What is the newest interest of Sula and Nel as they go off on their random adventures?
29. What does Sula overhear when she is using the toilet at her house?
30. What happens to Chicken Little?

1923

31. What happens when the strong wind comes that is strange to the town? What usually happens?
32. What is the second strange thing that happens in the town?
33. What does Eva have to say about Hannah's accusations?
34. Why did Eva kill Plum, according to her?
35. What does Hannah dream of after she cleans the beans for dinner and sees the Deweys with their laces tied together?
36. What does Hannah take to her mother on Thursday?

1927

- 37. Who does Nel marry in this section?**
- 38. Describe Jude Greene.**
- 39. Who are the characters who have always been known to 'be as one'?**
- 40. Why does Sula love the attention that Jude gives to Nel?**

1937

- 41. What accompanies Sula when she returns to Medallion?**
- 42. What is Eva's response when Sula comes to visit her?**
- 43. What does Sula threaten when she is talking with Eva?**
- 44. What does Sula eventually do to Eva?**

1939

- 45. What are some of the rumors that begin to fly about Sula?**
- 46. What happens to Teapot, the five year old boy that knocks on Sula's door?**
- 47. What are Sula and Hannah's reputations among the women in regards to their attitudes toward men?**
- 48. What are some of the interesting things that others are noticing about Sula?**

1940

- 49. What is happening to Sula when Nel finally visits her for the first time in three years?**
- 50. Why does Nel act so cordial toward Sula after all these years?**
- 51. What are Sula and Nel's ideas about where Sula should stay?**
- 52. What is Sula's defense for the actions she has taken in her life?**

1941

- 53. Why do many people attend Sula's funeral?**
- 54. What are some signs that the Bottom is improving after Sula's death?**
- 55. When the retirement home is renovated, what does this mean?**
- 56. What turns Medallion 'silver'?**

1965

57. What amazes Nel as she considered the way things have changed?

58. What is Nel taken aback by when she visits Eva?

59. What does Nel do because she is so upset about her interaction with Eva?

60. What does Nel realize she feels about Chicken Little's death?