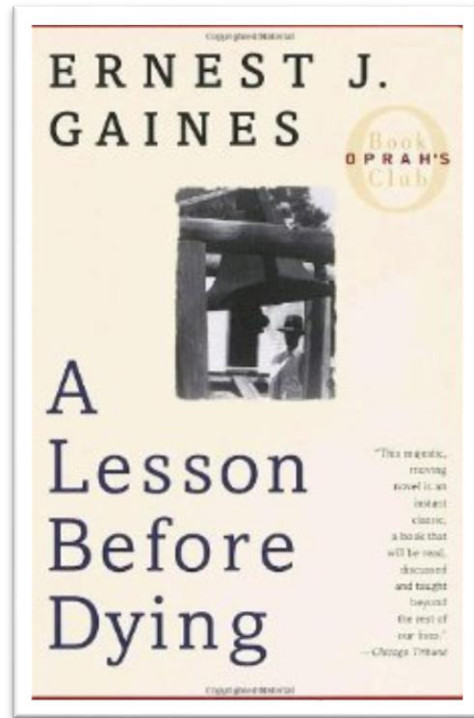


Summer Reading Assignment

9th Grade AICE English Language



ASSIGNMENT:

You are to read *A Lesson Before Dying** by Ernest Gaines and comment on the style of language the author uses. This will begin our preparation for our AICE curriculum, Paper 1.

TASK:

After you have read the novel, you are to choose three different pages within the novel to comment on. You will write one paragraph of around 150 words for each page. In each paragraph you are to comment on the following:

- Figurative Language
- Word Choice: positive/negative connotation and level of vocabulary
- Tone/Mood

I have provided an example below of how to comment on the style of writing. Remember, this is just an example of how you can word your comment about language and style, there other

SYNOPSIS

*A Lesson Before Dying**, is set in a small Cajun community in the late 1940s. Jefferson, a young black man, is an unwitting party to a liquor store shoot out in which three men are killed; the only survivor, he is convicted of murder and sentenced to death. Grant Wiggins, who left his hometown for the university, has returned to the plantation school to teach. As he struggles with his decision whether to stay or escape to another state, his aunt and Jefferson's godmother persuade him to visit Jefferson in his cell and impart his learning and his pride to Jefferson before his death. In the end, the two men forge a bond as they both come to understand the simple heroism of resisting—and defying—the expected.

Ernest J. Gaines brings to this novel the same rich sense of place, the same deep understanding of the human psyche, and the same compassion for a people and their struggle that have unformed his previous, highly praised works of fiction.

ways you can word what is below and still have the same effect. You can also comment on more than one device or list more than two words or phrases as I did in the examples. Please do not use my example every time.

Figurative Language: The author uses the simile (device name), my love for her flowed forth like a thousand rushing rivers (write out device from passage), to emphasize the strength in which he feels love for her and how hard it is to contain his love for her (explain why the author used the device).

Word Choice: The author uses negative connotations (word choice style), such as exasperated and infuriated (write out words from passage) to demonstrate the degree of annoyance the author felt for censorship (explain why the author used the types of words he or she did).

Tone/Mood: The author uses words and phrases such as anticipation and crept around the corner (list words and phrases here) to convey a mood of suspense (list either mood or tone and what the mood or tone is) for the reader.

GRADING: Quiz, Assignment, Presentation

1. You will have a multiple choice **quiz** on the book to check for understanding **on the first day of school**. Please be ready, this will be your first test grade.
2. I will also collect your **assignment** on style of language **on the first day of school**.
3. After we review your assignment in class and revisions are made you will present one of your style and language paragraphs in class. You will choose which of the three you present. I will provide more information on your presentations in class after we review your word choice assignments.
4. Following directions is always a must! You can lose points for not following directions on any assignment or assessment in this class.
 - Your paper must be typed in black ink, using 1 inch margins and 12 point font either Times New Roman.
 - You will need a heading that is typed as well. Your heading should be aligned right and typed. You will include your name, date and period in the heading. Please wait until you get your schedule to type in your Period. You will title the assignment Summer Reading Language of Style Assignment. Please see a sample below.

	Ms. Naughton 8/10/2015 Period 4
Summer Reading Language of Style Assignment	

5. Good grammar is also a must! You can lose points for not using proper grammar on any assignment or assessment in this class. Basic grammar is the correct use of:
- Capitalization
 - End punctuation
 - Apostrophes
 - Words such as *their/there/they're* and *your/you're*
 - Basic spelling
 - Writing/typing a proper book title
 - Sentence structure, not using fragments or run-on sentences
 - Subject-verb agreement
 - Not using any slang or symbols in your writing.

Your quiz and assignment will both be due **Monday, August 10, 2015.**

**This book is rated PG-13 due to a small bit of content. If you are not comfortable with your child reading this book then he or she will read Kidnapped by Robert Louis Stevenson and complete the same assignment but for this book.*