



DWIGHT SCHOOL ENGLISH DEPARTMENT

11th Grade Summer 2017 Assignment

IB English A Language & Literature HL I

Mr. Ruelens



Please purchase *Homeland and Other Stories*, by Barbara Kingsolver, ISBN: 006227774X; complete both of the following tasks.

Task #1: Reading and Annotations

You must read “Homeland,” “Quality Time,” “Why I Am a Danger to the Public,” and *two other stories* of your choice.

Kingsolver uses a variety of literary conventions throughout the text. As part of your close reading, and in support of the work that you will complete for Task #2, keep track of the following conventions.

- Motifs / symbols of societal attitudes toward women
- Motifs / symbols of poverty or work / class divisions
- Motifs / symbols of rebellion against family / society
- Imagery related to major settings or journeys
- Major shifts or surprises in characterizations
- Any other compelling or crucial literary convention

When you find instances of these conventions, note them by underlining, starring, or otherwise marking the specific passages in your text. In addition, write the name of the convention in the margin. If you prefer, instead of writing in the book itself, you can use Post-It notes to mark the page, the passage, and the name of the convention.

You should have at least four (4) annotations for each of the six (6) conventions, for a total of twenty-four (24) annotations, which will be checked by your teacher on the first day of class. Be sure not to choose examples of conventions that are all from the same story; you should, instead, find some conventions in *each of the five stories that you read*, demonstrating your complete experience with the text.

Task #2: Reader-Response Journal

Create a reader-response journal that will be a record of your “dialogue” with the stories throughout your reading. This journal will be in the form of a table with one column labeled “Excerpt” and one column labeled “Response.” For the “Excerpt” column, choose excerpts with which you can interact in a meaningful manner and write responses – of three (3) or four (4) full sentences in length – that explain how each excerpt either:

- a. reveals some aspect of societal attitudes toward women,
- b. suggests that the protagonist is rebelling against family or society,
- c. renders commentary on human relationships or societal conditions such as poverty, work, class divisions, etc., or
- d. teaches some lesson or offers some wisdom about the world that, to you, was previously unknown.

You must choose at least three (3) excerpts from each of the five (5) stories that you read, for a total of at least fifteen (15) excerpts and responses. Be sure to include the page number with each excerpt.

Bring your annotated book on the first day of class. Also bring your completed Task #2 Journal, printed as follows.

- Type Size: Twelve (12) Point
- Type Font: Times New Roman
- Integrity: At the top of the first page of your Journal, type the succinct version of the Dwight School Honor Code: *I did not cheat on this assignment*. (The assignment will be submitted to the anti-plagiarism site *Turnitin.com*. Instructions on how to do so will be provided on the first day of class.)

If you have any questions about the assignment, email Mr. Ruelens at jruelens@dwight.edu. Have a wonderful summer, and we look forward to seeing you in September!