

Summer Reading 2009  
Rising Seniors Advanced Placement

*Pride and Prejudice* - Jane Austen  
*Waiting for Godot* (drama)-Samuel Beckett  
*Ethan Frome* - Edith Wharton

Assignment #1 - *Pride and Prejudice*

Explain how a **theme** is developed throughout the novel. Please double space, cite page numbers (in-text citations) and avoid plot summary.

Length = 550-600 words Due = Wednesday, August 19

\*E-copy will also be submitted to turnitin.com once school begins.

Assignment #2 - *Waiting for Godot*

Critics have argued the “meaning” of this work for decades. Research some of the various theories and come prepared to defend or refute their validity. Please bring print-outs to class.

Assignment # 3 - *Ethan Frome*

While reading *Frome*, please record ten journal entries of at least ½ page each (handwritten). Please use the following format when writing entries:

**Date:**                      **Title of Entry:**                      **Pages Covered:**

What should you put in the journal entries? I want your *thoughts* and *reflections*, NOT a plot summary. I want you to *respond* to the characters, their actions and decisions, archaic customs, unfamiliar vocabulary terms, etc. If you need help, use the following questions, but don't feel like you are “bound” to them.

1. What do you like? Dislike? Find comfortable? Find irritating? Why?
2. Comment on the characters. Describe them in physical, mental, and emotional terms. Do any of the characters seem to change?
3. Describe the relationship between the characters. Explain what the characters seem to value (what is important).
4. Describe the setting. How is it important to the novel?
5. Explain and describe what unanswered questions you have thus far.
6. Describe the author's attitude toward life. Is he / she optimistic or pessimistic? Explain.
7. Discuss any prevalent literary devices: tone, symbolism, irony, diction,

The books need to be read in their entirety and the assignments completed by Wednesday, August 19<sup>th</sup>. In addition, we will spend about two days discussing each novel before being tested on the material.

Please email if you have any questions during the summer  
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