

The Monthly Approach Paper Assignment for a Fiction Book

A Novel Study Homework Connection (ongoing)

Formatting Requirements: Typed/Word Processed; Times New Roman; 12 pt; Single Spaced; Neatly Formatted

7 SECTION REQUIREMENTS

1. Proper Heading: Your Full Name, The Date, The Class/Block, The Book Title, The Author's Name, The Genre.

2. Summary Paragraph: A four or five sentence paragraph which explains the ENTIRE book or play using as much detail as you can manage. To encourage your writing style, you may not use semi-colons or colons in this paragraph, and every sentence must start out in a different way. This helps make your writing more interesting to read. This is often the most difficult section of the approach paper to write. It will take some time to condense the happenings of the book/play into these few sentences which all start differently.

3. Character Descriptions: Choose three or four main characters in your book or play. For each character, supply: Character's Name, Four or Five words which describe the character distinctly. This is a good time to think about vivid vocabulary words we use in class, check the dictionary, thesaurus. If you use a particular word to describe one character, you may not use that same word to describe another character.

4. Discussion/Essay Questions: Write three questions that a teacher might ask you because of the book or play either in class or for an essay. These questions should be high level and thought-provoking. They almost always take more than one line to type because they ask readers to combine more than one idea, AND they require the person questioned to take an idea OUT of the book and APPLY it to their own life. Just writing these types of questions helps you to anticipate what questions might be asked of you in class discussions or on a test and encourages you to think more insightfully about the book or play.

5. Key Passage: Choose the most important passage in the book or play (in your opinion) based on plot development, theme, etc. Type it up word-for-word in the approach paper. Make sure to identify the speakers.

6. Key Passage Explanation (14 poi): In a fully-developed paragraph, explain why your chosen passage is important to understanding the book or play. In your explanation, make sure you integrate quotes (actual words or phrases from the book or play) from the key passage to strengthen your explanation. Often, this selected passage will offer clues to the book or play's themes. Explain any mentioned or inferred themes connected to the key passage.

7. Your Opinion (14 points): In two to three paragraphs, write about what you liked/disliked most OR least about this book. This can be about the author's style, characters, themes, settings, literary devices, etc. Be sure to explain by using details to support your response. Tell why you would or wouldn't recommend this book to someone.

Grading will be very specific and in all cases will be tailored to fit your needs as an individual. You can see the rubric at the following link - <http://moshej.edublogs.org/files/2011/04/Approach-Paper-Rubric1-1oerz3a.doc>.