

**La Plata High School**  
Summer Reading 2022  
**AP Literature and Composition**  
**Ms. Brooke Shnipes**

**TWO Texts to be read:**

1. *Wuthering Heights*, Emily Bronte
2. *Macbeth*, William Shakespeare

*Because you will need to provide proof that you have thoroughly read and annotated the text, **do not purchase an e-book**. You may, however, check out a library book, and you are encouraged to listen along as you read with free resources.*

In accordance with the College Board's Course Description for AP English Literature, you will learn to engage "in the careful reading and critical analysis of imaginative literature" from the 16<sup>th</sup> to the 21<sup>st</sup> century. Imaginative literature includes fictional stories, plays, and poetry.

When reading a novel or play, you should understand that a fictional character typically represents man in some way. To say that a character is an "everyman" is to say that the character embodies particular traits that most humans can connect to or understand at some point in life.

Demonstrate careful reading and critical analysis of literature this summer by completing the following activities:

**DURING Reading:**

For each of the texts, you will need to **keep detailed notes as you read** in order to understand the meaning of the work as a whole and to demonstrate your commitment to your reading over the summer. The following process for keeping notes will be used throughout the school year, as well.

**Sticky Note responses:** See the attached example of how to include your notes. How many notations should you make? There's no solid answer, but know that extensive notes serve as a valuable outline of the text and demonstrate that you have carefully considered the text's meaning. The more evidence there is of your understanding, the better. You will also be expected to use your notations in class discussions. **If you would rather WRITE DIRECTLY IN YOUR BOOK, you can do that instead or in addition!**

**Follow the steps on the next page for completing your detailed notes** and know that by following them, you are focusing on the author's use of and development of plot and literary elements, such as character, setting, conflict, symbolism, and theme. **YOU WILL RECEIVE A GRADE FOR YOUR NOTES, so please make sure you follow the directions. You will lose points if your notes simply summarize plot points.**

## Steps for Creating Detailed Sticky Notes

### Step 1

Keep an eye out for these “signposts”:

- **Contrasts and contradictions (cc)**  
When a character does something that contrasts with what you’d expect or contradicts his earlier acts or statements, STOP and ask, “Why is the character doing that?”
- **Words of the wise (ww)**  
When a character (probably older and wiser) takes the main character aside and offers serious advice, STOP and ask, “What’s the life lesson and how might it affect the character? How will this character receive that advice?” Predict! Interpret!
- **Aha! Moments (aha!)**  
When a character realizes, understands, or finally figures out something, STOP and ask yourself, “How might this change things?”
- **Again and again (aa)**  
When you notice a word, phrase, situation, image mentioned over and over, STOP and ask yourself, “Why does this keep happening again and again? What could it mean?”
- **Memory moments (mm)**  
When the author interrupts the action to tell you about a memory, STOP and ask yourself, “Why might this memory be important?”
- **Tough questions (tq)**  
When a character asks himself a very difficult question, STOP and ask yourself, “What does this question make me wonder about?”

### Step 2

As you come across signposts in Step 1, **underline or highlight** them (if it’s your book). After all, they are important or interesting in relation to character development.

### Step 3

Next to the passage, place a sticky note that you have written on (see example on next page). Make sure to **jot down the page number and the “signpost” abbreviation** so that you can easily remember why it caught your eye.

### Step 4

Write a **longhand note** summarizing why you found that particular passage intriguing (explain your “signpost”).

### Step 5

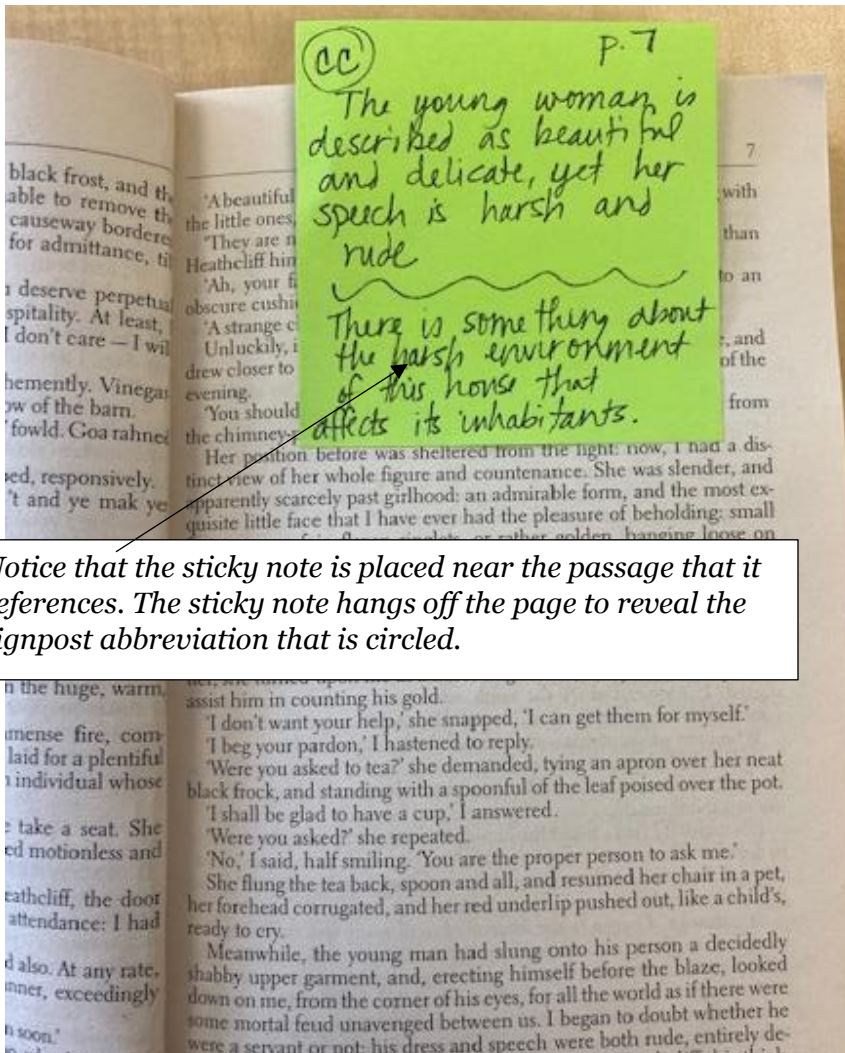
**Answer the question** triggered by the signposts in order to reflect on your character development discovery.

*See the next page for an example of HOW to effectively fill out a sign post sticky note!*

## **AFTER Reading:**

Provide a detailed response for each of the following:

1. Identify how each text's main characters reveal aspects of every man. That is, what makes each character human and relatable?
2. What should anyone, anywhere understand after reading the text? Think about the overall message about life (think essential questions or universal understanding). Support your response with references to events and characters.



Notice that the sticky note is placed near the passage that it references. The sticky note hangs off the page to reveal the signpost abbreviation that is circled.

**Listen for FREE** on Apple Podcasts (this is a great option to pace yourself, as you can see how much TIME it will take for each section of the text). I would also recommend following along in your books so you can create your notes!

[Wuthering Heights link](#)

[Macbeth link](#)

**Purchase your own copies from Amazon:**

*(These are my recommended editions—you do not need to purchase these, or any copies. You can also get a copy from the library, or request a copy from me that you can pick up from the school before the last day.)*

[Wuthering Heights on Amazon](#)

[Macbeth \(No Fear Shakespeare edition\) on](#)

## **IMPORTANT!!**

On **DAY TWO** of school you will be turning in your **AFTER-READING RESPONSES** to both texts (see the questions at the top of page 3 of this document).

During the first weeks of school, you will be USING YOUR DURING READING NOTES, so make sure they're complete and thorough!

On **DAYS FIVE and SIX (subject to change)** of school, you will be completing a **TIMED WRITING assessment and a TEST (in that order) on Wuthering Heights**. While you do so, I will be checking your sticky note annotations. If your sticky notes are in a library book and you need to return it, transfer them to paper ☺

By the end of the **SECOND** week of school, you will be completing an assessment on *Macbeth*.