

## Summer Reading & Reflection Assignment: AP Literature & Composition

**Rationale:** The summer reading assignment will be your first step in an exciting AP Literature program next year. Your assigned reading is the novel *The Unbearable Lightness of Being* by Milan Kundera. The novel will serve as the start of our discussion of university-level literary analysis and writing. Please complete the following steps over the course of this summer:

### Assignment: Worth 20 Total Points

1) Read *The Unbearable Lightness of Being* by Milan Kundera. You may check it out from the school or choose to purchase your own copy if you'd like to be able to write in the book.

2) Provide a minimum of forty annotations as you read. An annotation is a brief note where you might place the observation of an idea, a question you have about the text, a stylistic or cultural observation, or any other thoughts that you have about the reading. Try to stay away from making notes of simple plot summary. You may use post-it notes, or collect your observations on paper or electronically. If the book is yours, you may also write in the book directly (10 Points).

3) On an electronic document, provide complete paragraph responses with textual evidence to the following questions:

- How does the time and place in which the story is set contribute to the importance of the novel?
- The most difficult part of the story to connect with your own life is what?
- The easiest part of the story to connect with your own life is what?
- How do the issues and events in this work connect with your own time and place?
- One of the most interesting literary / stylistic techniques or devices used by Milan Kundera in this novel is what?

**Due Date:** The assignment is due on the third class of the semester. You'll need to demonstrate your annotations during class and submit the questions through Powerschool Learning.

You may contact me with questions at [pellai@asf.edu.mx](mailto:pellai@asf.edu.mx)

The quality of your writing will be based on the following Rubric Categories (10 Points):

<b>Criterion C: Organization and Development</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• How well organized and coherent is the comparative analysis?</li> <li>• How balanced is the comparative analysis? (“Balance” here means equal treatment of the two texts.)</li> </ul>	<b>Criterion D: Language</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• How clear, varied and accurate is the language?</li> <li>• How appropriate is the choice of register, style and terminology? (“Register” refers, in this context, to the student’s use of elements such as vocabulary, tone, sentence structure and terminology appropriate to the task.)</li> </ul>
0 The work does not reach a standard described by the descriptors below.	0 The work does not reach a standard described by the descriptors below.
1 Little organization is apparent, with no sense of balance and very little development; considerable emphasis is placed on one text to the detriment of the other.	1 Language is rarely clear and appropriate; there are many errors in grammar, vocabulary and sentence construction and little sense of register and style.
2 Some organization is apparent. There is little sense of balance and some development; although both texts are addressed, the treatment of one is superficial.	2 Language is sometimes clear and carefully chosen; grammar, vocabulary and sentence construction are fairly accurate, although errors and inconsistencies are apparent; the register and style are to some extent appropriate to the task.
3 The comparative analysis is organized and structured in a generally coherent way. There is a sense of balance and adequate development.	3 Language is clear and carefully chosen with an adequate degree of accuracy in grammar, vocabulary and sentence construction despite some lapses; register and style are mostly appropriate to the task.
4 The comparative analysis is well organized and balanced. The structure is mostly coherent and there is a good sense of development.	4 Language is clear and carefully chosen, with a good degree of accuracy in grammar, vocabulary and sentence construction; register and style are consistently appropriate to the task.
5 The comparative analysis is well balanced and effectively organized, with a coherent and effective structure and development.	5 Language is very clear, effective, carefully chosen and precise, with a high degree of accuracy in grammar, vocabulary and sentence construction; register and style are effective and appropriate to the task.