

10th Grade World Literature and Composition Honors Summer Assignment

Overview Welcome to Honors 10th Grade Literature and Composition! During this course, you will study a range of literary texts and devices while reading and analyzing both fiction and nonfiction texts. You will be exposed to a range of cultural experiences and countries through literature. Additionally, you will practice analyzing a range of texts while developing your critical thinking and composition skills.

In preparation for Tenth Grade World Literature & Composition you are required to complete a three-part, mandatory summer reading assignment. Please make sure that you read the instructions for each portion of the assignment thoroughly and completely. We will be working on this assignment throughout the first couple weeks of school. Please be prepared to discuss the text with the class!

Required Summer Reading Text:

- *The House on Mango Street*, Sandra Cisneros
Assignment

Part I: Reading Component

Please purchase and read *The House on Mango Street*.

Part II: Annotating Component

AS YOU READ-

ANNOTATE your text. This means that during the first week of class, I will be checking to see if you have anything written in the margins of your text (i.e., statements, questions, words), items circled, underlined, highlighted, etc.—you should be interacting with the text at all times! While there are many ways to annotate a text, here are some examples (feel free to create your own system):

1. Circle symbols
2. Bracket off examples of motifs
3. Underline examples of themes
4. Squiggly-line major characters/descriptions
5. Write questions of comprehension in the margins
6. Write questions of further confusion at the end of each chapter that you will answer as you read further
7. Write brief summaries of your thoughts on what happened at the end of each chapter
8. Make notations of patterns you observe
9. Highlight in 1 color important terms (definitions/explanations will be found at the top/bottom of the page)
10. Highlight in another color solid examples of figurative language and write brief explanations in the margins next to it (i.e., similes, metaphors, personification, euphemism, foreshadowing, alliteration, anaphora, etc.) You may not find examples of everything in every text.
11. Highlight in another color examples of rhetorical devices (i.e., allusions, foils, paradoxes, irony, hyperboles, ethos, pathos, logos, allegories, parallelism, tone, etc.)

** Regardless of your system, there should be several examples of each of the above findings. Some examples of how to annotate can be found on YouTube:

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=IzrWOj0gWHU> (Shorter Version)

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=pf9CTJj9dCM> (Longer Version)

Part IV: Writing Component

After you read, write three (3) observation paragraphs for the text. Each paragraph should discuss the following aspects of the book:

1. A character
2. Conflict
3. Theme

Begin each paragraph with a topic sentence that makes an observation about the particular aspect of the book. Go on to support and expand upon your idea with specific examples, incidents, details, and at least one relevant quote from the book. Write in flowing sentences, weaving these elements from the book into your writing, not simply listing them. (Cite the page number for each quote used.) End each paragraph with a wrap-up sentence that ties your examples and details together in support of your topic sentence; show how they add up to your main point, what they have in common.

Example: *I Am Nujood, Age 10 and Divorced*, by Nujood Ali

Character Observation

Nujood is an innocent 10-year-old Yemeni girl growing up in the small village of Khardji, Yemen. Nujood tells her true story of how she was suddenly robbed of her childhood. The reader first meets Nujood as she is navigating through the town square to the courthouse to talk to a judge. The image of a 10-year-old girl going to court to speak to a judge about divorce shows that Nujood's character is both girl and woman: "Go on, Nujood! It's true you're only a girl, but you're also a woman, and a real one, even though you're still having trouble accepting that" (Ali 5). In Chapter two the reader gets a glimpse of Nujood the "girl", playing hide-and-seek and laying in the grass with her brothers and sisters. Nujood's childhood innocence and curiosity are portrayed through the story's narration about her family and upbringing in Khardji. Before scandal hit her family, Nujood lived "rather happily, to the rhythm of the sun" (Ali 9). The reader sees a shift in Nujood's simple, happy home life when her family is forced out of Khardji and moves to the city of Sana. The economic stressors increase when her father loses his job. Nujood's father agrees to marry her off; and it is during this time that Nujood's childhood innocence is taken, and she is forced to be a woman. Nujood does not realize what is at stake when she is forced into marriage. "And anyway, I didn't have a really clear idea of what marriage was. To me, it was a big celebration most of all, with lots of presents, and chocolate, and jewelry. A new house, a new life" (Ali 16)! On her wedding night, Nujood experiences the brutal reality of her marriage. She is attacked and beaten by her husband and mother-in-law for refusing to "obey". Nujood demonstrates determination after suffering abuse in her marriage. Nujood incessantly requests that her parents save her from her abusive marriage and allow her to come home. At their refusal, she does not quit. Nujood finds a way to seek advice from her father's second wife and runs away to the courthouse to seek justice. The contradiction between "girl" and "woman" contribute to the complexity of Nujood's character. She is ultimately freed from her abusive marriage. The marriage forced her to become a strong woman before her time; and her new-found freedom reunites her with her childhood. "I won—I'm divorced! And the marriage—gone for good. It's peculiar, this feeling of lightness, of returning suddenly to my childhood" (Ali 40).

Submission Requirements:

Please bring a typed and printed draft of your writing component as well as your annotated text on the first day of school.