



AICE English Language A Level

2025 Summer Reading Assignment

Novel: *Their Eyes Were Watching God* by Zora Neale Hurston

We will be reading this novel twice—once during the summer, and once during the school year. The first time you read it, you are in charge of understanding the plot, characters, and some of the most important literary devices. Later, we will examine its linguistic qualities for our class together.

This assignment will be your first assignment of first quarter and it is worth 100 points.

Directions: Please keep a HANDWRITTEN reflection journal. You must have entries for the following:

1. Chapters 1-3
2. Chapters 4-5
3. Chapter 6
4. Chapters 7-10
5. Chapters 11-13
6. Chapters 14-17
7. Chapters 18-19

Your entries should be...

- 1-2 handwritten pages
- PERSONAL reflections
- Your GENUINE reactions to the story
- Your thoughts and opinions
- Connections to other books you've read or real-life events you've learned about
- Predictions about how the story will turn out

They should NOT be...

- Chapter summaries copied from websites
- Summaries created by A.I.
- Reflections that sound like a robot wrote them
- Reflections that sound like they were published in the New Yorker instead of written by a high school student
- Word-for-word the same as any other student's entries.

You may view an example of a journal entry on the Nova High School website.



Here are some sentence starters to help you reflect...

Type of Response	Sentence Starters		
Personal Reaction	I really liked/disliked...because	When I read about...I felt (angry, sad, joyful, surprised, upset, satisfied) because...	I agreed/disagreed with.....because
Connecting to Own Experience	What I already know is...	This story reminds me of something that happened to me...	This was similar to a situation in my own life when...
Connecting to Other Texts	When I read....I was reminded of the (book, quote, story, or article) by.....because	This relates to another (book, article, short story) I've read because.....	I'd compare this to....because...
Predicting	I would expect that...	What will probably happen next is...	If...., then what should happen is...
Analyzing Arguments	The argument here is similar to....	I believe/don't believe this argument is true because...	What was strong (weak) about the evidence supporting the argument was...
Interpreting	What this (story or argument) means to me is	One question that is answered by this text is...	The significance of.....is.....because



Type of Response	Sentence Starters		
Evaluating	What was realistic/unrealistic was....because	A similar text to this one is..... Compared to that text, this one is.....because	The part which stood out for me was....because
Analyzing Writing	What was particularly effective in the writing is the....	The author catches the readers attention by.....	What was less effective was when the author.... because
Conclusion	What this teaches is...	What I learned from this story is...	What I wish the author had included