

Eleventh Grade –The American Experience

You must get the editions listed below!

F. Scott Fitzgerald. *The Great Gatsby* ISBN 0743273567 (Scribner)

W.P. Kinsella. *Shoeless Joe* ISBN 0395957737 (Mariner)

Annotate your text while reading *Shoeless Joe*, paying special attention to important passages. Once you have finished your reading, select six passages from the book you deem especially important. Passages must be taken from throughout the entire book. On a separate piece of paper, copy each passage verbatim, put it in quotation marks, and correctly cite it with the page number in parentheses.

Then for each selection, craft a well-written paragraph in which you discuss why this passage is important to the book. For example, does it add to the character development, the plot line, the details of setting, the progression of the theme?

Next, in a second paragraph, react to each passage as a reader. Make me understand WHY you have selected this passage.

To clarify, the first paragraph is more about the book, more about ANALYSIS and the relationship of the passage to the book as a whole. The second paragraph is to be PERSONAL and explain your choice; relate the passage to something in your life to help your reader understand its inclusion.

To generate responses, you can consider the following as suggested prompts:

- Why does the passage impress, intrigue, horrify, or puzzle you?
- Do you find the author's use of language appealing or powerful? Does the passage jump off the page as a great descriptive passage?
- Does it prompt a strong response from you as you read it? Does it present itself as so well-crafted that you just love the sound of it? Is the language beautiful, descriptive, graphic?
- Is it particularly meaningful? Is it a high point in the book?
- Do you find yourself in agreement/disagreement with the ideas expressed?
- Does the passage remind you of a situation you have lived as well?
- Does the passage make you laugh out loud or make you melancholy or make you feel something else?
- Does the author or the character raise intriguing questions or issues?
- Does the passage challenge or expand your thinking?

You are not limited by the above list, and you are not expected to answer all of these questions. But your responses should clearly explain why these passages mean something to you and why they caught your attention. Remember this entire assignment should be typed and double-spaced, and it is due the first day of class.

You will be tested on *The Great Gatsby* within the first two weeks of school.

Supplementary Reading List

English teachers will have details of the extra credit available for these two titles at the start of school.

Guterson. *Snow Falling on Cedars*

Potok. *The Chosen*

Also Recommended :

Walker. *The Color Purple*

Shaara. *The Killer Angels*

Cather. *My Antonia*

Recommended Films:

Cold Mountain

Breaking Away

A Streetcar Named Desire