

Mrs. Powell's Pre-AP English I

2017 Summer Assignments

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Hello and welcome to Pre-AP English I. I hope you have had a great year and are looking forward to the Lemon Bay experience. Your summer text is the dystopian novella, *Anthem* by Ayn Rand which is timely now as it has ever been. If you cannot obtain your own copy of *Anthem*, (Amazon sells books for \$.01 sometimes, \$3 for shipping), I have some in my classroom which I can check out to you for the summer, but you can't write in these! You will have to make arrangements to get hold of one before the end of the school year. You may also use Kindle or other e-texts. (Please see the Manta Writing Handbook on Lemon Bay High School's Media Center page for a guide on how to cite electronic readers.)

There will be **no excuse** for not having these assignments complete **and with you** on the day you return to school, for we will begin our exploration immediately. Students will receive a zero on any missing summer assignment(s) and, in the case of a class transfer, will take the zeroes with them. My e-mail address is on this paper should you run into any questions or concerns over the summer. A tips sheet and the Power Point are also on my website. Please do not wait until the last minute, though. First of all, I probably won't be able to help at that point, or you may not enjoy the summer experience as you will feel rushed or resentful.

I am looking forward to discussing this year's summer assignments with you, for I know *Anthem* will enhance your study of Human Geography and will help prepare you for your future AP courses. Have a great summer, enjoy your literary travels, and see you in August.

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The Tasks:

A. Before you read *Anthem*.

I] Review the *Anthem* Power Point before you read the novella. You will be expected to know and to be able to apply these terms to *Anthem*.

II] Please answer all of the following **Seven Thematic Questions** below in bulleted note form based on your perceptions and experiences with life and literature at this moment. You should have at least three bullets per number. There is no right or wrong; this is a reflection.

The Seven Thematic Questions

- 1) What causes alienation and how do we address or react to alienation?
- 2) What leads to our social and moral development?
- 3) How do we define "justice" and how do we search for it?
- 4) How do our surroundings shape our moral and psychological development?
- 5) How do our desires propel and obstruct our development?
- 6) What are some of the ways our illusions or misconceptions about ourselves or our society are shattered?
- 7) What are some of the potentially dangerous political and social issues that we face, and how do we confront these issues?

B: As you read *Anthem*

III] Tracing Themes in a Novella: As you read *Anthem*, choose 2 relevant thematic questions from the list of 7 above, take bulleted notes with page numbers on when, where, and how these themes are addressed, and trace the themes' developments throughout the novel. These notes will become the foundation for your first timed write when you return. Remember we are thinking in terms of addressing universals, society, and human nature—not in terms plot or retelling the story. When I say “we” here, I mean people/society which includes us—the reader. The characters are experiencing what humanity experiences. We share.

IV] Literary Devices Annotations: Annotate your novel with the annotation style of your choice: write in your book with color coding (preferred), or journal, or sticky note. There are annotation- style suggestions on the LBHS Website under Media Center in the Study Skills Appendix. Please look up any words below with which you are not familiar on the AP Resource Handbook on my website. Your **notes (plural and thorough) must cover all of the following considerations:**

Required Annotations List. Notes Must Include Significant Instances of...

- 1) Figurative language: consider simile, metaphor, and personification.
- 2) Diction: consider imagery and connotation.
- 3) Perspective: identify and note the narrator's point of view and note any pov shifts.
- 4) Narrator's transformations: evolutions, devolutions, epiphanies and their causes and effects?
- 5) Symbols, archetypes, motifs.
- 6) Settings: including settings within settings within settings, and significant details including props.
- 7) Minor characters: including those who may appear briefly or not at all.
- 8) Connections (NOT plotty connections) with other works you have read.

C: When you have finished reading:

V] Analysis Paragraphs: Using your **Literary Devices Annotations** from above, type 4 different and thorough one-paragraph analyses using 4 different annotations from the 8 listed above. You must Make sure you label which annotation type you are addressing and include gracefully embedded parenthetical citations for your textual evidence just like my sample below. Please include an MLA Works Cited entry for your novella at the bottom of the last page. Use the Lemon Bay Media Center tab and look for citation guides, or look in the Manta Writing Handbook on my website, or go to the OWL Purdue website. See the sample below as an example of a thorough paragraph response.

Sample Paragraph for Annotation List Item #1:

Literary Device- Simile: Tim O'Brien ends the first section of *The Things They Carried* with the visual parallel, “they carried like freight trains; they carried it on their backs and shoulders-and for all the ambiguities of Vietnam, all the mysteries and unknowns, there was at least the single abiding certainty that they would never be at a loss for things to carry” (2). Initially, O'Brien stresses the physical weight of what soldiers have to carry for simple survival, heavy “like a freight train” (2). However, the combination of the emotional weight of loved ones at home, the fear of death, the responsibility for the men with whom one fights, and the physical weight accentuate the daily burdens of the soldiers in Vietnam. This quote also addresses the confusion that the men felt about the reasons they were fighting. Referring to the reasons as “mysteries” and “unknowns,” the soldiers cling to the only certainty -- things they had to carry--in a confusing world where “normal” rules are suspended.

VI] Listen to and read along with the transcript of Aldous Huxley's “The Ultimate Revolution,” and answer the notetaking questions directly on the template provided.