



English II-Honors / Pre-AP Summer Reading Assignment ~ Mrs. Elise Parker

LOYOLA COLLEGE PREP

Great Expectations by Charles Dickens

In addition to *Left to Tell*, rising English II Honors-PreAP students are required to read an additional novel. This year, I have selected Charles Dickens' classic novel—*Great Expectations*. After reading the novel, respond thoughtfully and thoroughly to the following questions. As you construct your ideas, strive for excellent syntax and diction, and be sure to include specific details (CD) and commentary (CM) revealing your knowledge and comprehension of the text. **Avoid using Sparknotes as guide for your answers. Be an active and inquisitive reader and annotate as you read in effort to create a stronger connection with the text. I have created 8 extension exercises to be completed as you read or immediately upon finishing the novel:

1. Annotate while you read!

Read the novel with a pen in hand! Annotate as you read noting new and old characters, the setting, interesting words, mood and tone, connections between characters and themes within the text, etc. I will be checking your annotations on the first day of school, so bring your novel to class. If you choose to read an ebook, you must take notes either on your iPad or on paper. If you choose to hand write the annotations, you can use a notebook, notebook paper, or organized sticky notes to gather your ideas. **I am not looking for a specific number of annotations, instead, I am looking for quality annotations that demonstrate a connection to the text. ☺

The following questions should be answered on notebook paper or printed and ready to turn in the first day of class:

2. Setting

Define setting. Describe and discuss the setting(s) (place and time) of the novel. Be sure to support it with evidence from the novel. **(one- two 7-9 sentence paragraphs)**

3. Characters

Select three significant characters from the novel. Thoroughly discuss each character revealing their role in the story, their connection with other characters, and one example of conflict each character faced. **(Each character response should be 7-9 sentences)**

4. Summary

Write a summary of *Great Expectations* in your OWN WORDS. **This response should consist of two-three paragraphs.**

5. Theme

In your own words define theme. Great Expectations has several examples of themes. For example, one could say Pip was treated unkind throughout most of the novel. Think about a theme that could represent the novel. Once you have selected your theme, discuss it in detail telling why/how it can be considered as a theme for the novel. **Response should be two-three paragraphs and supported with specific details from the text. (A paragraph is 7-9 well-constructed sentences.)**

6. Mood

In your own words define mood. Several examples of mood can be derived from the novel. For example, one could say that certain parts of the novel created a dark and mysterious mood. Think about a mood created within certain parts of the novel. Once you have brainstormed moods in the novel, choose one and discuss it in detail telling why it can be considered a mood for that particular section of the novel. **Response should one-two paragraphs and supported with specific details from the text.**

7. Quotes

The following are quotes from Charles Dickens' Great Expectations--Carefully read each quote. Select **three** of the five quotes listed below to expound upon. When discussing your selected quotes, indicate the chapter, page, and the person who stated the quote. Next, explain what the quote is saying--convey why you think the character said it (support with specific details from the text) and reveal the quotes role/purpose in the story. (For each quote respond in one well-developed 7-9 sentence paragraph.)

- a. "It was one of those March days when the sun shines hot and the wind blows cold: when it is summer in the light, and winter in the shade."
- Charles Dickens, Great Expectations
- b. "Take nothing on its looks; take everything on evidence. There's no better rule."
- Charles Dickens, Great Expectations
- c. "Heaven knows we need never be ashamed of our tears, for they are rain upon the blinding dust of earth, overlying our hard hearts."
- Charles Dickens, Great Expectations
- d. "I was always treated as if I had insisted on being born, in opposition to the dictates of reason, religion, and morality, and against the dissuading arguments of my best friends."
- Charles Dickens, Great Expectations
- e. "So, throughout life, our worst weaknesses and meannesses are usually committed for the sake of the people whom we most despise."
- Charles Dickens, Great Expectations

8. More Quotes ~ Now choose three quotes of your own and follow the same directions as above. Use your annotations to help guide your choices. 😊

Best of luck to you this summer! I am proud of you for accepting the challenge of English II Honors/Pre-AP. I know it is going to be a magnificent year of reading, writing, and exploring language and literature. Have a great summer! Happy Reading!

Mrs. Parker