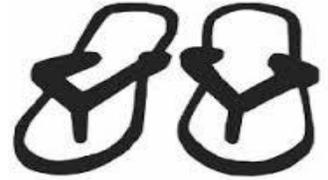




Westhill High School Summer Reading: AP Literature and Composition (12)



You must complete TWO assignments over the summer. BOTH are listed below.

The Handmaid's Tale

A gripping vision of our society radically overturned by a theocratic revolution, Margaret Atwood's *The Handmaid's Tale* has become one of the most powerful and most widely read novels of our time.

Offred is a Handmaid in the Republic of Gilead, serving in the household of the enigmatic Commander and his bitter wife. She may go out once a day to markets whose signs are now pictures because women are not allowed to read. She must pray that the Commander makes her pregnant, for in a time of declining birthrates her value lies in her fertility, and failure means exile to the dangerously polluted Colonies. Offred can remember a time when she lived with her husband and daughter and had a job, before she lost even her own name. Now she navigates the intimate secrets of those who control her every move, risking her life in breaking the rules.

© <http://www.amazon.com>

Assignment #1

Read and enjoy *The Handmaid's Tale*! ☺

As you read, look for quotations that seem significant, thought-provoking, or puzzling. Once you choose a passage that stands out to you, record it in the left column of a T-chart with the page number. In the right column, have a conversation--or "dialogue"--with the text by questioning, connecting to, predicting, reflecting on, or evaluating the passage.

How to Set Up Your Dialectical Journal

Your dialectical journal should be typed and set up like a T-chart with two columns. The left column must include a **direct quotation** from the text with a **page number citation**. The right column must include the **context** of the quotation, or a brief summary of what was happening in the book where you found that quote, as well as a thoughtful **response** to the quotation. Your response can either...

- (Q) Question -- ask about something in the passage that is unclear
- (C) Connect -- make a connection to your life, the world, or another text
- (P) Predict -- anticipate what will occur based on what's in the passage
- (R) Reflect -- think deeply about what the passage means in a broad sense – not just to the characters in the story. What conclusions can you draw about the world or human nature?
- (E) Evaluate -- make a judgment about the character(s), their actions, or what the author is trying to say

***Please label each entry so that your teacher can easily identify which response style you chose.**

