

NAME _____

Mr. Buckingham

AP Literature

1 June 2011 (Wednesday) AP Literature Summer Readings (2) Worth 200 Points

DUE DATE: AUGUST 1st, emailed before midnight to jbuckingham@kenoshastjoseph.com

Texts

1) *Wide Sargasso Sea* by Jean Rhys (a Prequel to *Jane Eyre*)

Norton Critical Edition ISBN-10 0393960129 ISBN-13 978-0393960129
Amazon/Barnes & Noble \$12.93

2) *Jane Eyre* by Charlotte Brontë

Norton Critical Edition (3rd) ISBN-10 0393975428 ISBN-13 978-0393975420
Barnes & Noble \$12.80

Your summer readings are based on the purchase of these two Norton Critical Editions. Both of these texts are superior in providing background, analysis and reference notes.

How to Begin?

Despite any temptation, read *Wide Sargasso Sea* first. As you read, write margin notes and mark up your book. Will this be collected? No. Your main concern is: What is the proper way to assimilate readings and aid understanding? A well annotated text is an aid. Relying on memory alone is always a poor device. As you read *Wide Sargasso Sea*, start making a list of key phrases that have resonance and impact in the novel, such as:

Qui est là? Qui est là? (25, 28, 112)

OR

I knew that my dreams were dreams. (100)

You may not use either of these two prompts.

Next, read the entirety of *Jane Eyre*. Again, mark up your text as you go.

Then, write your Essay.

A common error in essays is to simply retell or summarize the storyline. That is not an essay and your grade will reflect this. Go beyond summarization. I know the story and I assume you do too. Take one of your key phrases from *Wide Sargasso Sea* and apply it to *Jane Eyre*. Only bring up key passages as referential points as you make connections to the two novels with your one prompt. Make the essay your own with *your* insights and *your* analysis.

Lastly, type a Titled, 3-full page critical analogy comparing these two works in MLA format. Title the Essay. Titles are not afterthoughts. Work your titles. Superb titles show superb writing.

For MLA Formatting, the Purdue OWL Website is one of the best:

<http://owl.english.purdue.edu/owl/resource/747/01/>

Short excerpts (< than 5 lines) of key passages are to be cited as “.....” (Rhys 24) or (Brontë 44).

Quotes should neither play a minor nor a major part of your overall essay.

Page numbers must be from the Norton Critical Editions.

If you have questions, I will be periodically checking my email throughout the summer.

There will be a test on each of the novels during the first week of school.