



## 12<sup>th</sup> Grade Dual Credit English Summer Reading Assignment

Hello,

My name is Kelly Kanetkar, and I will be teaching 12<sup>th</sup> grade Dual Credit English next year. The summer reading assignment for this class is *There Eyes Were Watching God* by Zora Neale Hurston. You may reach me this summer either through email: [kkanetkar@evansvilledayschool.org](mailto:kkanetkar@evansvilledayschool.org) or via text: (340) 690-2385. Please do not wait until the week before school starts to ask me questions; get started early so that you are not rushed.

One of the English department's expectations is that you will annotate the books you read, including your summer reading book. I will grade your annotations (10 points), so be prepared to turn in your book on the first day of class. Here is a list of guidelines to help you with annotation:

- Write out important plot events at the end of each chapter. Remember you are only annotating significant elements or important facts.
- Mark words and phrases that describe each character's physical appearance, personality, weaknesses, strengths, motivations, etc.
- Mark descriptions of setting and abbreviations that might have a significant meaning.
- Mark unfamiliar words and define them in the margins.
- Mark any conflicts that take place. Write down if the conflict is man vs man, man vs nature, etc.
- Identify and explain any symbols or motifs that are present throughout the text; any themes or lessons that are learned.
- Write down any comments or questions in the margins of your text. At the end of each chapter, jot down a short summary and your feelings.
- Mark significant quotes and why they are significant.
- Mark and label literary devices.

I am looking forward to working with you next year! Have a great summer, and I hope you enjoy reading *There Eyes Were Watching God*.

Sincerely,

Kelly Kanetkar

### **Assignment #1: Dialectical Journal (50 Points, 5 Points for each Journal Entry)**

While reading, create a dialectical journal, in which you pick 10 significant passages from the book and record your thinking – the significance to the story, connections, and/or questions raised. (Please, space out your entries, meaning they should not all be from the beginning of the novel.) The term “dialectic” means “the art or practice of arriving at the truth by using conversation involving question and answer.” Think of your dialectical journal as a series of conversations with the text. The process is meant to help you develop a better understanding of the texts we read. The dialectical journal must be typed. Below are some ideas to help you get started.

#### **Choosing a passage from the text:**

Look for quotes that seem significant, powerful, thought provoking or puzzling. You might record:

- Creative writing passages (maybe a clever use of similes and/or metaphors )
- Passages that remind you of your own life or something you’ve seen or read before
- Shifts or turns in the plot
- A passage that makes you realize something about the story, setting or a character
- A passage that really illustrates what the words are describing (imagery)
- Events that are surprising or confusing (this may be something cultural or dialect)

#### **Responding to the text:**

You can respond to the text in a variety of ways. Remember to be specific and detailed in your response.

- Raise questions about the beliefs and values implied in the text
- Give your personal reactions to the passage
- Discuss the words, ideas, or actions or actions of the author or character
- Discuss what the passage reminds you of from your own experiences
- Write about what it makes you think or feel
- Agree or disagree with a character or the author
- Draw a picture if an image comes to mind while reading the passage

#### **Sample Sentence Starters:**

I really don’t understand this because....  
I really dislike/like this idea because...  
I think the author is trying to say that....  
This passage reminds me of a time in my life when....  
If I were (name of character) at this point I would ....  
This part doesn’t make sense because....  
This character reminds me of (name of person) because....

Here is an example of a dialectical journal entry:

<p>1. "I saw out of the corner of my eye, a short, pot-bellied black policeman leading a naked black man with bony, stiltlike legs, out of an outhouse in a yard across the street. The naked man pleaded to be allowed to go and dress, but the fat policeman simply roared with laughter and prodded the naked man in the back with a truncheon, telling him that it was not his fault that he had caught him naked" (Mathabane 24).</p> <p>From <i>Kaffir Boy</i></p>	<p>Being able to get a job was predicated on having a passbook, and obviously the "fat policeman" had a passbook and the "naked...bony" man did not or else he wouldn't have been arrested (24). From what I've read so far in the book, there doesn't seem to be any rhyme or reason as to why one person has a passbook and another doesn't except for maybe who one knows or who one can bribe, which of course takes money. This scene shows judicial and economic privilege at work. Having a job was definitely a privilege for many blacks during the time of Apartheid, and it is rather sad that these black policemen use having a job to denigrate and put down those blacks who are in a worse financial situation. Of course, the irony is that these black policemen think that they are privileged, but the white officers with whom they work, would probably treat the black subordinates exactly the same way if they would ever get out of line. I think this scene also demonstrates that when one is given certain privileges, and that person has no power, he will take power wherever he can get it, even if it means taking it from a member of his own community.</p>
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Assignment #2: Creative Project (50 Points)

Choose one of the project ideas below to complete.

<p><b>Scrapbook:</b> Using quotes, explanations, and images from the novel, create a scrapbook that encapsulates one of the novel's characters. Each explanation should be at least three sentences in length and demonstrate how the chosen quote and image represents the character. Images must be created by you; no clipart allowed. You could also include "objects" that belong to the character; for example; a checker or a head rag. The scrapbook must be bound and have a title page that includes a hand-drawn graphic and the character's name. The book should be on 8 ½ x 11 paper and must be at least ten pages, not including the title page.</p>
<p><b>3D Map:</b> Create a 3D map on foam board that represents at least ten important points on Janie's journey. Each point in her journey should be numbered chronologically, and a 3D object should represent what happened at that point. On the back of the map, include a two-sentence, typed description of each numbered point on Janie's journey. Make the map colorful.</p>
<p><b>Newspaper:</b> Create a newspaper about the book, with all a newspaper's parts: news section, sports or leisure/life section, comics, advertisements/want ads, weather, letter to the editor, obituary. (Look at a real newspaper and use it as a guide.) All the articles need to be related to the novel—the characters, events, setting, plot, conflict, resolutions, etc.) Every part of the newspaper must be created by you, so for example, do not try to find a comic or an ad from the 1930s and just put it in your newspaper; create one yourself based on the novel.</p>
<p><b>Movie Trailer:</b> Create a movie trailer for the book. Include a story board of at least five ESSENTIAL scenes/elements that must be included in the trailer (to demonstrate your planning of the trailer). Write an explanation as to why you included those five scenes/ideas. Be sure to include music that represents your vision for the movie and write an explanation of why you chose this particular music for the trailer.</p>