



THE WILLIAMSBURG HIGH SCHOOL FOR ARCHITECTURE AND DESIGN

Name: _____
Summer 2011 E5 – E6 Reading Assignment

Ms. Song – English 11th

Dear 11th Grade Student and Parent,

Please allow me to be the first to introduce you to 11th grade American Literature. Your child will be taking the ELA Regents at the end of their 11th grade so it is vital that I assess their skills as soon as possible. Below you will find the instructions for the summer reading and writing assignment. If at any point in the summer you have any issues, please email Ms. Song at song@whsad.org for questions.

Directions: Below you will find a copy of your summer reading/writing assignment. It is **mandatory that you purchase both books**. They are available at Borders Bookstore, Barnes & Noble, or any other reputable bookstore. After reading both books in completion, you will write a **6-paragraph Critical Lens Essay** (Part 4 of the ELA Regents).

Step 1: Obtain the copies of the mandatory summer reading books below.

- Hiroshima by John Hersey (\$6.36 @ Borders)
- Fallen Angels by Walter Dean Myers (\$5.59 @ Borders)

Step 2: Read both books in absolute completion.

Step 3: Write a Critical Lens Essay (refer to back side for full instructions→).

Step 4: **Bring your copies of the books** and the **completed essay** on the first day of school, either typed or written legibly.

Thank you,
Ms. Song
song@whsad.org

Part 4

Your Task:

Write a critical essay in which you discuss *two* works of literature (**Hiroshima by John Hersey and Fallen Angels by Walter Dean Myers**) you have read from the particular perspective of the statement that is provided for you in the **Critical Lens**. In your essay, provide a valid interpretation of the statement, agree *or* disagree with the statement as you have interpreted it, and support your opinion using specific references to appropriate literary elements from the two works. You may use scrap paper to plan your response. Write your essay beginning on page 3 of the essay booklet.

Critical Lens:

“...men are at the mercy of events and cannot control them.”

- Herodotus

The Histories of Herodotus. 1958

Guidelines:

Be sure to

- Provide a valid interpretation of the critical lens that clearly establishes the criteria for analysis.
- Indicate whether you agree *or* disagree with the statement as you have interpreted it.
- Choose **two** works (**Hiroshima by John Hersey and Fallen Angels by Walter Dean Myers**) you have read that you believe best support your opinion.
- Use the criteria suggested by the critical lens to analyze the works you have chosen.
- Avoid plot summary. Instead, use specific references to appropriate literary elements (for example: theme, characterization, setting, point of view) to develop your analysis.
- Organize your ideas in a unified and coherent manner.
- Specify the titles and authors of the literature you choose.
- Follow the conventions of standard written English.