SUMMER READING ASSIGNMENT: COLLEGE PREP AMERICAN LITERATURE

PART I: BIOGRAPHY: **30 PTS**

CHOOSE **EITHER** **TENNESSEE WILLIAMS OR KAREN THOMPSON WALKER**

**Write a short biography with the following requirements:**

* **TWO PARAGRAPHS (ABOUT half a page EACH paragraph))**
* **sophisticated information**
* **Make it interesting Do not begin with: “\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_was born on “….**
* **AVOID flooding this part with dates of marriages, children, etc.**
* **No use of author’s first name alone\*\***
* **Use of primary sources\* /academic sources : letters/interviews**

**MUST use at least one video interview**

* **Use of good sources…shows effort and “digging/exploring”**
* **Should Not read like a Wikipedia entry : Can NOT use Wikipedia**

**Offers insight into the writer’s subject matter/connects to work for summer reading\*\***

**\*\*\*Make sure you CITE IN TEXT FOR ALL PARTS OF SUMMER READING RESPONSE INCLUDING BIOGRAPHY**

**Be sure to look up how to cite a video interview.**

PART II: SIGNIFICANT PASSAGES**: 50 ( PTS**) Choose 3 passages from *The Glass Menagerie* **and** 3 passages from *The Age of Miracle*s**that you feel are significant to the novel or play and comment on their significance. Thus, 6 passages total. Passages can represent a variety of lengths though none should be longer than half a page and all of them should not be short.**

**These passages can:**

* **Offer insight into the characters, especially the protagonist(s)**
* **Present images that introduce or reinforce important symbolism**
* **Represent such importance that the novel or play would lose so much without them. (this does not mean vital information like names)**

**Set up as follows:**

**Passage: “That night the baseball playoffs went on without interruption. To play on in the face of uncertainty seemed the only American thing to do. But that night’s game was terrible. It was harder than ever to defy gravity. Seven pitchers were pulled. No one could hit. With each new hour, every bit of matter on the earth was more and more fettered by gravity”(Walker 57).**

**Significance: Write in bullet point format: HOWEVER USE SOPHISTICATED WORDING.\* and make sophisticated points. REQUIRED: 3 bullet points for each passage minimum. No maximum.**

**Your bullet points should NEVER include just plot.**

**For example, you would not write:**

* **This describes a baseball game that was not very good.**

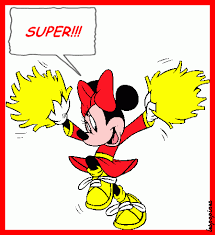
**This response would give you zero points.**

**Here are examples of what you should write:**

* **An important part of American life is rooted in sports.**
* **Baseball playoffs return every year as vital to early autumn as**

**leaves changing color. Thus, because of gravity’s interference, a sense of normalcy is impossible.**

* **This captures the power of nature and the weakness of humans to overcome it, including Julia.**

** This response would give you many points**

**For *The Glass Menagerie*, always present dialogue as it is written.**

**Laura(panicky): Oh, Mother—*you* answer the door!**

**Amanda (lightly): I’ll be in the kitchen—busy!**

**Laura: Oh, Mother, please answer the door, don’t make me do it!**

**(Williams 56).**

**You should also take significant passages from : the Production Notes at the beginning, the scene descriptions and the narrator’s descriptions**

**20 points:**

* **grammar, usage**
* **effort/following directions**
* **DO NOT FORGET a Works Cited page for the novel and play and for the interviews and whatever other sources you choose to use.**

**Expectations:**

* **Biography shows effort and use of good sources**
* **Passage selection shows effort and critical thinking.**
* **Entire summer reading response reflects strong writing**
* **Entire summer reading response reflects revision, proofreading and quality effort.**
* **Response reflects control over content and avoidance of careless errors and major errors.**

**TURNING IT IN:**

**You will be notified ,once we return to school, about turnitin information in your classes. Your paper will be due on August 20/21 (A or B day). This means you will have one more weekend before you must turn it in. Turning it in means printed out and in your hands. Late grades will be assessed if you do not have a printed out copy to turn in. Save your summer reading books; we will be discussing them at length, and you will be given some assignments associated with them.**

**Your response must have a COVER PAGE with your name, block, date on it. You do not need to repeat this information on pages with your response; however, do put your last name and page number on your response.**

**.I look forward to meeting you and discussing these works. Welcome to American Literature.**