

PSJA ISD SUMMER READING 2017!

ENGLISH IV AP or AP/DC Summer Assignment

Book:

Death of a Salesman

Author:

Arthur Miller

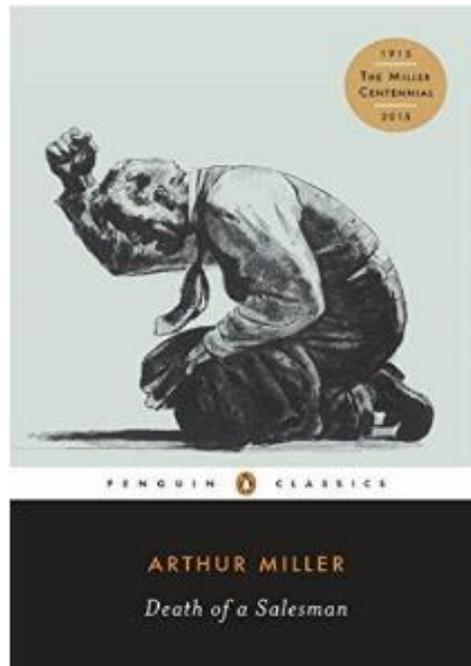
Genre:

Play

Assignment:

Read – Mark the text - Write

(see back for additional information)



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Course Description:

Advanced Placement English Literature and Composition is a college level English course focused on providing intellectual challenges for students that are rooted in literary analysis and criticism with a workload that is highly comparative to that of an undergraduate literature course. Multiple literary genres from various literary time periods will be studied in a variety of forms including short stories, poetry, drama, novel (or novella), and essay. This course is reading intensive and will allow students the opportunity to explore literature in a way that lends itself to criticism, reflection, and analysis. The writing in this class will be approached in manageable parts; discussion and revising and editing will help add depth to individual students' ideas as writing projects are being completed. Students will understand that writing is developed over a period of time and a writer's style and creation of original ideas comes as a result of this process.

Task 1 - Read:

Willy Loman, the protagonist of *Death of a Salesman*, has spent his life following the American way, living out his belief in salesmanship as a way to reinvent himself. Willy lives in a fragile world of elaborate excuses and daydreams, conflating past and present in a desperate attempt to make sense of himself and of a world that once promised so much. Read the play critically, closely, and completely.

Task 2 – Mark the text:

Death of a Salesman addresses several concepts:

1. The American Dream is acquirable by all
2. Abandonment leaves humans in despair
3. Betrayal is damaging to one's core

As you read the book, use color-coded Post-Its, to mark where you see each concept addressed in the text: Ex. (Concept 1 – yellow; 2- Blue...) On the Post-It, write **how** the particular passage or quote you've marked addresses the concept. You will need 10-15 Post-Its per concept in the book.



Task 1

Read the play thoroughly

Task 2

Mark the text by using the Post-Its

Task 3

Write a reflection paper

Task 3 - Write:

For each of the concepts, please write a ONE page reflection. The purpose of each reflection is to offer a reaction or connection by using relevant textual evidence. Each should be 12 point font, Times New Roman, double spaced. Consider what your thoughts were during the reading of the play.

"When today fails to offer the justification for hope, tomorrow becomes the only grail worth pursuing."

Death of a Salesman
Arthur Miller

