

Summer Reading for English 11cc

Your assignment is to read *HOMEGOING* by Yaa Gyasi. It should be easily found in local bookstores or online, and possibly even used.

If at all possible, please buy a copy that you can keep and mark up.

It will be most helpful if you can have the book with you during our first days of school.

(NOTE: if this is a problem, let me know).

1. As you read, pay attention to the following ideas. Mark the text when you come across quotes that address any of these ideas. You might also want to mark any quotes that strike you as important or that appeal to you for any reason.
 - What is the role of women in the novel? In its depiction of the collective experiences of the female characters, what does the book seem to reveal about womanhood?
 - What role do patriotism, heritage, and tradition play in contributing to the injustices, prejudices, and violence depicted in the book?
 - What is the role of “scars” in the novel?
 - What does the novel suggest about patriotism and tradition?
 - What significance does naming have in the book?
 - What does the book suggest about the legacy of slavery?
 - How does this novel suggest about learning American history? What story does it tell about America?
2. Choose five (5) of the questions above, and for EACH question, prepare a “Quote sandwich” (see below) that helps address the answer to the question. I will check Quote Sandwiches on the first day of school. If we begin school remotely, you’ll be posting these Quote Sandwiches to Canvas (more details about how to use Canvas will be forthcoming).

Instructions for completing Quote Sandwiches: (See below for a sample)

- **CONTEXT:** The context introduces your reader to the quotation’s original context: who said it and where they said it. Strong context will also guide your reader to notice the point of focus in the quotation that’s important to your text or argument.
- **ATTRIBUTION/QUOTATION:** Once the context has been established, you have to include the actual quote itself. ALL QUOTES MUST HAVE AN ATTRIBUTION (e.g. Clarissa states “...” or the narrator says “...”), be enclosed in quotation marks and include parenthetical in-text citations; in addition, all quotes must be documented in their entirety; do not use the ellipses to omit any information.
- **COMMENTARY:** Avoid using the language “This quote proves that” or “This quote shows that.” Analyze the connection between the new information your quote is providing, the information you have already provided in your context, and the essential questions. Don’t expect the reader to make this connection.

The more you can make the nuances evident, the more effective your analysis will be.

Example Quote Sandwich

Context	In his speech, Old Major sets up a dichotomy: the workers, or producers, and the owners, those who own and control the means and yields of production. The animals are powerless to keep the products of their bodies and their labor, while man uses the animals for his own benefit, neglecting those who made the benefits possible.
Attribution	Old Major asserts, "Man is the only creature that consumes without producing.... Yet he is lord of all the animals. He sets them to work, he gives back to them the bare minimum that will prevent them from starving, and the rest he keeps for himself" (29).
Quotation	Orwell wants his readers to see this relationship as patently unfair. This is evident in the language Old Major uses to describe the situation. It is further elucidated when Old Major goes on to say that, should the animals remove man from the picture, "the root cause of hunger and overwork is abolished forever."
Commentary	Finally, Old Major points out that "all the evils of this life of ours spring from the tyranny of human beings." Peace, equality, and justice are antithetical to the values of the tyrant, whose power is often exercised cruelly and unjustly. This speech sets the stage for the Rebellion, which should bring about an utopian society in which "all the produce of [the animals'] labour would be our own" and in which all the animals would be "rich and free."

See OWL at Purdue for help with in-text citations:

https://owl.purdue.edu/owl/research_and_citation/mla_style/mla_formatting_and_style_guide/mla_in_text_citations_the_basics.html