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Welcome to your English AP Literature course!

A timeless and proven method to discover and relay your brilliance will always be literary analysis. Also, a broad background of reading experiences will help facilitate and “ignite” the critical thinking processes we will partake of throughout the upcoming school year. To keep your intellect stimulated, we have assigned the novel Under the Feet of Jesus by Helena Maria Viramontes for this year’s summer reading. It is a relatively modern novel in the world of dusty literary classics, but an excerpt from the novel managed to find its way on a recent AP Literature test. That, in itself, is proof the literary world holds remarkably high esteem for the work for both its aesthetic and intellectual properties. That’s where we come in.

One aspect of the AP Literature test is a portion called the “Open Ended Essay”. On this section of the test, you choose a novel you have read in your past whose literary components you feel can best answer a specific “open ended” prompt.

The list of open ended essay prompts used on prior AP tests is linked below on any of the following two links:

<https://digitalcrowsnest.files.wordpress.com/2014/01/ap-eng-lit-essay-questions-1970-2013.pdf>

https://mseffie.com/iOpeners/Open_Questions.pdf

(The links are generally all the same; I provided back ups just in case one goes down over the summer months)

Read through the open ended prompts very carefully, noting the types of questions they are and, particularly, what ASPECTS of literature they ask test takers to focus on. It’s a great way to acquaint yourself with all the different elements you should be paying attention to, as you read any longer work.

Achieving The Highest Standards

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Your assessment for Under the Feet of Jesus will be to select one of these prompts and answer it using Viramontes' novel as the text you are applying the prompt to. For this reason, you should consult the AP prompts quite often while you are reading the novel to narrow down your options to a few, and ultimately to one, that you think will best accommodate the novel. Obviously, any annotations you make while reading should be made with the intention of using that textual evidence to answer your chosen prompt. Several prompts on the list can be applied to Viramontes' work, so don't doubt your own selection, thinking there is only one right answer. The right answer is the answer you choose and PROVE in a 2-page, double spaced, analytical essay that explicitly answers the prompt you've chosen.

The rubric we will use on this assessment is, of course, the same rubric we will use on any open ended essay all year long. It is found on the following link, listed as "Question 3: Literary Argument":

<https://apcentral.collegeboard.org/pdf/ap-english-literature-and-composition-frqs-1-2-3-scoring-rubrics.pdf>

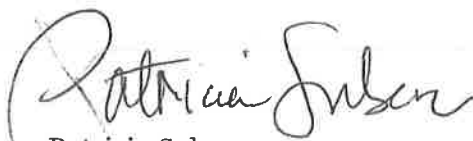
The essay will be due in the first week of the upcoming school year. You will be provided with a Turnitin.com code at that time to assure nobody else stole your ideas.

Importantly, please take a brief moment to enroll in a Summer Correspondence Google Classroom for your AP Literature course. The class code is **nwtelrt**. I will update you throughout the summer and will check often for any of your questions or concerns about the summer reading or the course ahead.

If you have any questions or concerns please contact me through GC or email at any time.



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