

**Advanced Placement Literature and Composition**  
**Summer Reading**  
**2009-2010**  
**Mrs. Itibrou**

1. Thank you for your interest in this college-level course. Because the curriculum is specific to the AP Exam (which qualifies students for college credit) in May, the standards and requirements are higher than those for other college-prep courses.
2. AP enrollment presumes that you have a particular aptitude and a particular interest in language arts—that you want the challenge of difficult reading and writing assignments, and that you want to participate in class discussions. Enrollment also presumes that you can dedicate no fewer than five hours per week outside of class time to this course.
3. The following pages contain the summer assignments and the information you need to complete them.
4. All reading and writing must be completed by Friday, August 14, 2009. You may deliver your assignments to the labeled box in the HUB at the school. Place them in the proper order (Rubric-I.-II.) in a manila folder with your name on the tab. If you prefer to mail them, they must be postmarked by August 14. Send them to:

Medina High School  
777 E. Union St.  
Medina, Ohio 44256  
ATTN: Mrs. Itibrou

5. Work postmarked or dropped off after the due date (3:00 pm, 8/14) will be considered late. A 10% per day penalty will be in effect. **You will not be allowed to drop this class because of a lack of preparation regarding summer reading. You will not be allowed to switch to another English course.**
6. I strongly urge you to purchase *Life of Pi* (Yann Martel), the novel for summer reading. We will be working with it at length, and you may want to mark in your novel. Your second reading is a play, *A Doll's House* (Henrik Ibsen), and you must pick up your text book before the end of the school year in order to do the assignments for it. Please plan ahead accordingly. The text book will be available to you after May 14; see me in room 2207.
7. Should you have any questions or concerns, email me at [Itibrou@mcsoh.org](mailto:Itibrou@mcsoh.org). I check my email all summer, so don't be afraid to write!

8. I look forward to working with you to provide you with a worthwhile experience. I promise to work very hard; the rest is up to you.

## I. Journals

Write three personal response journals for *A Doll's House* and five personal response journals for *Life of Pi* using the structural divisions below. For each journal, type a quotation of at least two sentences at the top. Include the correct *MLA* parenthetical citation and format. Then respond to the quote with at least 150 words. Your response could deal with setting, plot, characterization, theme, style, motif/symbol, or any other aspect you consider relevant. Certainly feel free to use first person and casual diction. I want to know what YOU think; I already know what the authors of Cliff's and Spark's notes think. Your work, like all work, must be typed (double-spaced) and grammatically correct. Feel free to put two journals on one page, if you have the room.

### *A Doll's House*

- Journal 1 Act I
- Journal 2 Act II
- Journal 3 Act III

### *Life of Pi*

- Journal 1 Author's Note to Chapter 36 (Part I)
- Journal 2 Chapters 37-60 (First Half of Part II)
- Journal 3 Chapters 61-94 (Rest of Part II)
- Journal 4 Chapters 95-100 (Part III)

## II. Research

- A. Research (**You may NOT use Wikipedia as your source for any of these assignments or any future assignments in this class!**) all of the following topics:
1. The biographies of Henrik Ibsen and Yann Martel
  2. The basic tenets of Islam, Hinduism, and Christianity
  3. The historical setting of *A Doll's House*
- B. Choose one of the General Questions at the end of *A Doll's House* in the text book, pages 1189-1190, and respond to it with at least 250 words. Use quotes from the play and any of your research, if applicable, to support your response.
- C. In *Life of Pi*, Francis Adirubasamy tells the narrator, "I have a story that will make you believe in God" (Martel x). Analyze two different religious allusions in *Life of Pi*. Use your examples in quotes, set up their context in the story, explain their original religious meanings, and explain

their importance to the work as a whole. In other words, why are these references in the story, and why are they important? What do they help us to understand about the novel?

- D. You may use one shared Works Cited page to list all sources for both analyses.

### **Tips for *MLA* Citations**

1. When you can, cite the author's last name and the page number in parentheses after your quote or paraphrase.  
*Example:* (Martel 37)
2. Use quotation marks around quotes with less than four typed lines. Indent quotes with four or more typed lines, and don't use quotation marks around them unless a character is speaking.
3. For help with *MLA* guidelines (including how to generate a Works Cited page), go to the Media Center webpage and click on Noodletools. The user name is **leeca**, and the password is **noodle**. This site also offers the correct parenthetical citation for every source you enter on your page.
4. **You may NOT use Wikipedia as your source for any of these assignments or any future assignments in this class.**

### **An Important Reminder:**

You must consistently use *MLA* format in your writing. This means that you must head your project correctly and number your pages correctly. For guidelines on how to do this, click on "Grammar Tutorials" on my webpage (<http://www.mcsoh.org/mhs/langarts/itibrout/>) and then click on "A Student's Guide to the Presentation of Essays." There is a sample essay on that page so you can compare every aspect of your project to a correct *MLA*-style essay.

## Summer Reading Rubric

Turn this in as the first page of your project or I will deduct 20 points!

### Journals:

#### *A Doll's House* (3 journals)

\_\_\_\_\_ (5) Format—*MLA* citations and pagination, typed, double-spaced, grammatically correct

\_\_\_\_\_ (15) Quote from each section

\_\_\_\_\_ (30) Personal responses to quotes—150 word minimum for each response, interaction with text

\_\_\_\_\_ (50) Total possible points for all three journals

#### *Life of Pi* (five journals)

\_\_\_\_\_ (5) Format—*MLA* citations and pagination, typed, double-spaced, grammatically correct

\_\_\_\_\_ (25) Quote from each section

\_\_\_\_\_ (50) Personal responses to quotes

\_\_\_\_\_ (80) Total possible points for all four journals

### Research

\_\_\_\_\_ (20) Format: *MLA*, shared Works Cited page, minimum of two valid sources for analyses, spelling, grammar, typed, double-spaced

\_\_\_\_\_ (40) Insightful analysis of two different religious allusions, quotes linking text to research, minimum 250 words

\_\_\_\_\_ (40) Insightful analysis and response to General Question for *A Doll's House*, minimum 250 words

\_\_\_\_\_ (100) Total possible points for analyses

\_\_\_\_\_ (180) **Total possible summer reading project points**