

## READING ANALYSIS ENTRIES.

Mrs. Baggett's AP Senior English Classes

For specific assigned poems or prose writings, you must develop a reading analysis entry. Requirements for each entry are listed below.

### SPECIFIC REQUIREMENTS FOR ANALYSIS ENTRIES:

For each assigned work, respond to **THREE** of the following topics. Use the topic name as a subheading for each section of your entry. Develop at least one paragraph of four connected sentences for each of the three topics you've chosen for a grade of 75. Of course, longer entries are encouraged AND will receive higher grades.

**SETTING:** What is the physical setting of the text? the psychological setting? the social setting? the spiritual setting? How does the setting develop the theme?

**TONE:** What is the writer's attitude toward the subject? the audience? What is the speaker/narrator's attitude toward the subject? the audience? If they are the same, why? If they aren't the same, what is the author's intention? How does the setting contribute to the theme?

**THEME(S):** What is the subject matter, the content, of the work? What are its themes, preoccupations, ideas, or philosophy? How does the text reveal its meaning?

**CHARACTERIZATION:** What character interests you the most in this work? What is the character's physiology? sociology? psychology? How does characterization develop the theme(s)?

**IMAGERY AND DESCRIPTION:** Comment about any interesting qualities of figurative language, symbolism, and/or physical description in the work. How does imagery and description contribute to the meaning of the text?

**QUESTIONS AND AMBIGUITIES:** What questions do you have about the work? What do you find ambiguous about the messages of the work? Your discussion of this topic may consider any or all of the following questions or other questions of your own making [turn page over for questions on questions]

**Do not merely answer the questions. They are listed only to give you ideas. Instead, write a well-reasoned paragraph or two about the topics you've chosen!**

### SOME IDEAS FOR DEVELOPING QUESTIONS ABOUT THE TEXT

- (1) Are there places where you are uncertain of the meaning of words or phrases, or where a word or phrase can be given more than one interpretation? What are they? Why are they ambiguous?
- (2) Are there places where you are uncertain of the tone, or where the tone may be interpreted in more than one way? Why?
- (3) Are there places where you are uncertain about the status of the narrator/speaker or of another character? Or where any of these can be interpreted in more than one way? Why?
- (4) Are you uncertain about how to interpret the end of the work? Or can the ending have more than one interpretation? Why?
- (5) Are you uncertain about the status of worlds, realms, or hierarchies anywhere in the work? Or can these matters be given more than one interpretation? Why?
- (6) Are you uncertain about the work's main theme? Why?

Your questions should be thought-provoking and not easily answered. For example, "Is Julius Caesar really murdered, or was the whole thing a charade?" would not be a good question to pose regarding Shakespeare's *Julius Caesar*. The **why** portion of your entry is very important!