

**Summer Assignment 2009**

Dear English 12 Dual Enrollment Student,

Greetings! Below is the summer assignment for English 12 Dual Enrollment (English 111 for Northern Virginia Community College). Please read it thoroughly and carefully.

**Overview:** In preparation for English 111 (English 12 Dual Enrollment, part 1) in the fall, please pick up a copy of the following book:

*Points of View: An Anthology of Short Stories*, edited by James Moffett and Kenneth R. McElheny.

**Assignment, part 1:** Over the summer, please read 10 of the stories presented in the anthology and, for each selected story, write a brief commentary on it. The anthology groups the stories by the type of point of view in which each is written. Each of the ten stories selected must come from a different section of the anthology. In other words, choose only one story from the interior monologue section, only one story from the dramatic monologue section, and so on.

**Note:** The anthology has 11 sections, but only 10 stories are being read, so one section will be ignored.

**Caveat:** All students are to read the following four stories:

- “A Wilderness Station” by Alice Munro. Story begins on page 96.
- “My Side of the Matter” by Truman Capote. Story begins on page 189.
- “First Confession” by Frank O’Connor. Story begins on page 263.
- “The Lottery” by Shirley Jackson. Story begins on page 564.

The other six stories chosen must come from sections other than the ones in which the four required stories appear.

**A note on the text:** The text will be issued to you when you pick up this assignment. Please return the text, in good condition, at the start of the coming school year. The student will be financially responsible for a lost or damaged copy.

**Assignment, part 2:** For each story selected and read, please write a commentary on some key aspect of the story. Commentary topics include, but are not limited to, the following:

- The effect or significance of the writer’s choice of point of view.
- A key problem, conflict or issue addressed in the story.
- The significance of a particular character in the story.
- A critical moment in the story.
- Questions the story answers, or leaves unanswered.

**Big Note:** Please avoid merely summarizing the story. Individual commentaries that are exclusively or primarily summaries will be graded down, thereby reducing the overall grade for the assignment.

**Format:** Please adhere to the following guidelines in completing your commentaries:

- **Length:** Each individual story commentary will be between 50 and 75 words in length. Thus, the total length of the ten commentaries will be in the range of 500 to 750 words.
- Please type your commentaries, double-spaced, on full-size paper. Please use 12 point type size and a standard font.
- Please fit as many commentaries on a given page as is reasonable. Do not use one sheet of paper per commentary.
- For each individual commentary, please use the short story title as the heading of the commentary. You may use boldface type for the heading.
- In the upper left corner of the first page of your assignment, please place the following information:
  - Your name, first and last
  - English 111
  - The date you submit the assignment.
- In the upper right corner of all subsequent pages, please place your last name.

**Value:** The commentaries will be assessed as a major grade, valued at 100 points. The following will be included in the assignment:

- Quality and integrity of the commentaries (80 points).
- Adherence to format (10 points).
- Proper grammar and mechanics (10 points).

**Due Date:** The commentaries, and the anthology copy, are due on the first day of class at the start of the 2009-2010 school year.

If you have any questions about this assignment, or about the dual enrollment course, please feel free to stop by my room (402) at a convenient time or send an e-mail to the address listed below.

I hope you have a terrific summer. I look forward to working with you next year.

Sincerely,

Laurence R. Ward  
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