



PMSA

IH Literary Criticism

Required Summer 2022 Reading Assignment

Due Date: September 1st (first full day of school)

Point Value: 50 points



Welcome to IH Literary Criticism! We look forward to a year of learning and growth with you.

Your summer reading book is *Nothing to Envy: Ordinary Lives in North Korea* by Barbara Demick. You can check it out from PMSA or a local library or purchase it on your own.

Nothing to Envy follows the lives of six North Korean citizens over fifteen years. The book is based on true events and is a rare and fascinating depiction of ordinary life under the rule of dictators Kim Il-sung, the rise to power of his son Kim Jong-il, and a devastating famine that killed one-fifth of the population.

Part One: Reading Journal (20 points)

Choose two chapters from pages 1-150 and two chapters from page 151 to the end of the book and write 4 journal entries for each chapter (a minimum of 5 sentences for each entry). The journal entries should focus on one of these topics:

- What does this chapter inspire you to think about?
- What connections do you make between this chapter and another text you've read or with another cultural experience?
- What do you find interesting about the author's language or writing style in this chapter & why?

NO PLOT SUMMARY, PLEASE. Identify page numbers of chapters. You may type or handwrite the journals on notebook paper.

Part Two: Written Essay (30 points)

Write an essay approximately 500 words in length (typed, 2 double-spaced pages, 12 pt. font, 1-inch margins) about one theme in the book and how the author's writing contributed to the theme. Your essay should contain:

- An introduction paragraph with a thesis statement - The thesis statement should identify the theme of the book and two writing strategies (style, tone, structure, characterization) that the author uses to reinforce the theme.
- Two body paragraphs discussing each writing strategy and how the author uses it to support the theme. Provide an example of each strategy as evidence.
- A conclusion paragraph with a summary of your essay's main points and why the theme in the book is an important issue to write about.

Reading Journal Requirements

Each journal entry you write is worth 5 points for a total of 20 points.

- Four entries are written.
 - 2 entries from pp. 1-150
 - 2 entries from pp. 151-last page
- Be sure to indicate chapter page numbers.
- Each entry is at least 5 sentences.
- Each entry discusses **one** of the topics below.
 - What does this chapter inspire you to think about?
 - What connections do you make between this chapter and another text you've read or with a cultural experience?
 - What do you find interesting about the author's language or writing in this chapter & why?

Written Essay Grading Rubric (30 pts.)

Writing Expectations	Effective Shows solid understanding of sophisticated writing style and form.	Developing Shows understanding of competent writing form and style.	Emerging Shows some evidence of acceptable writing form and style.	Not Yet Needs to show evidence of acceptable writing style and form.
Content: - The writing is logical and clear. - The writing shows insight and relevant observations. - Textual evidence is used to support ideas.	9-10	7-8	5-6	1-4
Structure: - Each paragraph is logically organized. - Essay contains introduction, body and conclusion paragraphs.	4-5	3	2	1
Style: - Diction is intentional and appropriate for task. - Sentences are varied and cohesive. - Voice is authentic and natural.	4-5	3	2	1
GPS: - Grammar, punctuation, and spelling should be consistent with standard academic English.	4-5	3	2	1
Presentation: - Student name, date, and course name at top of page. - Essay is typed, 12 pt. font, double-spaced with 1-inch margins.	4-5	3	2	1
SUBTOTALS				
TOTAL				/30