

# American Author Book Report – Second Quarter

Honors English III Fall 2023

DUE \_\_\_\_\_

1. Write a MLA bibliographic entry for the book you read. It does not have to be presented on a note card – just follow the format for documenting a book. (Author’s last name, first. *Title*. Publisher, date.) **Record total page numbers as well.** (3 points)
2. Divide your book into **thirds**. **Yes, the entire number of pages divided by 3!** So a 300-page book would be approximately 100 pages, a 250 page book would be approximately 83 pages, etc. for each section. Please break one way or the other according to **logical chapter/section breaks**. **DOCUMENT RELEVANT PAGE NUMBERS/CHAPTERS of your division.**

**FOR EACH SECTION: \*\* Include Page Numbers for any and all quotes used\*\***

3. **CHARACTERS:** Keep track of **FOUR main characters** and note **CHARACTERIZATION** of these characters. **\*\*\*\*\* (NOT EVENTS) \*\*\*\*\***
  - Type or feel free to Xerox a passage from the book if it is a long or complicated passage. You must have specific words/descriptions/short passages that give a “picture” of each character (track **both** physical description and personality attributes). Find at least three examples, per character. (Choose **ONE quote from each one third section** for each character). Remember that authors **characterize** in several ways (not just dialogue)
    - i. narration
    - ii. other character’s thoughts of this person
    - iii. words the character himself says.
  - **EXPLAIN** each quote. The explanation must include the context of the quote (what is happening) and how/why the quote **CHARACTERIZES** this character. This **paragraph** explanation **MUST** be a minimum of 5 sentences! (60 points)
4. **THEME(S):** Find one quote from each one-third section that demonstrates a major theme of the novel. (Yes, that would be three quotes total). Label the theme idea and **EXPLAIN** how/why the quote demonstrates the theme. Again, this paragraph explanation should be a minimum of 5 sentences. (12 points)

## FOR ENTIRE NOVEL:

5. **SETTING:** Explain the time period and setting of this book. While some novels are very specific, say New York City, others are simply small town South Dakota or Midwest, etc.  
What is the time and place of the story? Is it set a long time ago or now (modern day). Does it take place in another country or in an imaginary place? How much time passes in the story—a day? a year? a lifetime? (5 points)
6. **PLOT:** What happens? Please give a **general summary** on what the book is about. What is the main event or conflict? What things lead up to it? What happens as a result? This should be a minimum of 10 sentences. ( 10 points)
7. **RESPONSE:** Discuss why you liked or disliked the book. **Respond, react, and connect!** This is a reader response that should indicate personal link(s) with the issues, characters, and/or events in the book. **What did you learn from the book? Do you think it would appeal to a wide range of people?** (7 points)
8. Draw or find a picture(s) to illustrate one main scene from the story for a book report cover. **Document your source** if you use an Internet picture or illustration. (3 points)



## American Literary Period

### **1607 - 1775: Colonial Period**

William Bradford  
John Winthrop  
Cotton Mather  
Benjamin Franklin  
Anne Bradstreet

### **1765 - 1790: Revolutionary Age**

Thomas Jefferson  
Alexander Hamilton  
James Madison  
Thomas Paine

### **1775 - 1865: Early National Period**

James Fenimore Cooper  
Edgar Allan Poe  
William Cullen Bryant  
Frederick Douglass  
Harriet Jacobs  
(slave narratives)

### **1828 - 1865: Romantic Period in America (American Renaissance or Age of Transcendentalism)**

Ralph Waldo Emerson  
Henry David Thoreau  
Edgar Allan Poe  
Herman Melville  
Washington Irving  
Nathaniel Hawthorne  
Harriet Beecher Stowe  
John Greenleaf Whittier  
Henry Wadsworth Longfellow  
Walt Whitman

### **1865 - 1914: Realistic Period - Naturalistic Period**

Mark Twain  
William Dean Howells  
Henry James  
Bret Harte  
Sarah Orne Jewett  
Stephen Crane  
Ezra Pound  
Emily Dickinson  
Frank Norris  
Jack London  
Theodore Dreiser

### **1914 - 1939: Modern Period - Jazz Age - Harlem Renaissance**

Edgar Lee Masters  
Ezra Pound  
Edwin Arlington Robinson  
William Carlos Williams  
Robert Frost  
Carl Sandburg  
Wallace Stevens  
Robinson Jeffers  
Marianne Moore  
T.S. Eliot  
Edna St. Vincent Millay  
E.E. Cummings  
Amy Lowell  
H.D. (Hilda Doolittle)  
Edith Wharton  
Sinclair Lewis  
Willa Cather  
Gertrude Stein  
Sherwood Anderson  
John Dos Passos  
F. Scott Fitzgerald (jazz age)  
William Faulkner  
Ernest Hemingway  
Thomas Wolfe  
John Steinbeck  
Eugene O'Neill  
H.L. Mencken

### **Harlem Renaissance:**

Langston Hughes  
Countee Cullen  
Jean Toomer  
W.E.B. DuBois  
James Baldwin

### **1939 - : Contemporary Period**

Vladimir Nabokov  
Eudora Welty  
Robert Penn Warren  
Bernard Malamud  
Saul Bellow  
Norman Mailer  
John Updike  
Kurt Vonnegut, Jr.  
Thomas Pynchon  
John Barth  
E.L. Doctorow  
Marianne Moore  
Theodore Roethke  
Elizabeth Bishop  
Robert Lowell  
Allen Ginsberg (Beat Generation)  
Adrienne Rich  
Sylvia Plath  
Thornton Wilder  
Arthur Miller  
Tennessee Williams  
Edward Albee

### **African American writers:**

Ralph Ellison  
Zora Neal Hurston  
Alice Walker  
James Baldwin  
Richard Wright  
Gwendolyn Brooks  
LeRoi Jones (Imamu Amiri Baraka)  
Toni Morrison

Fourth Quarter Book Report      Rubric      \_\_\_\_\_(100) Total points

\_\_\_\_ (3) **Correct MLA citation**

(Author's last name, first. *Title*. Publisher, Year. Page numbers)

\_\_\_\_ (60) **Character Quotes**

-Four Characters shown

-Quotes taken from three sections (beginning, middle, end)

-Explanation for each quote includes context of quote and shows how quote characterizes character. Minimum five sentences for each explanation.

\_\_\_\_ (12) **Themes** - three (one from each section)

-Quote is used and theme is labeled

-Explanation shows why theme is important and how quote demonstrates theme

\_\_\_\_ (5) **Setting**. Explains both time and setting of the novel and explains the timeline of the story

\_\_\_\_ (10) **Plot**. General summary given. Shows main conflict/event with details leading up to as well as results of conflict. Ten sentences minimum

\_\_\_\_ (7) **Response**. Discussed why you liked/disliked book. What did you learn from the book? Does it appeal to a wide-range of people?

\_\_\_\_ (3) **Picture** illustrates a main scene from novel.