

OAKBROOK SUMMER 2016 READING ASSIGNMENT:
Rising Seniors (12th) in English IV CP

***A Doll's House* by Henrik Ibsen**

At the end of the play, Nora Helmer makes a life-changing decision. Do you agree with Nora's choice? Is her action right or wrong? Can it be both? Defend your answer. Consider her reasons and whom her decision will affect and how. Who, if anyone, benefits from Nora's choice? Use specific examples and direct quotations to support your ideas.

Read the unabridged version of Ibsen's play and respond to the prompt in a well-written essay of at least two pages due on the first day of class. See the attached guidelines.

MS. AUTENZIO'S 10 GUIDELINES FOR WRITING YOUR ESSAY

- 1. Have a thesis sentence that clearly states the idea(s) discussed in your paper.**
Remember, your thesis must be **specific!** Do not simply restate the topic.

Sample topic: How does the Beast change in *Beauty and the Beast*?

AN EXAMPLE OF WHAT NOT TO DO:

In *Beauty and the Beast*, the Beast changes a great deal.
(Change is assumed in the topic—be specific!)

AN EXAMPLE OF WHAT YOU SHOULD DO:

In *Beauty and the Beast*, Beauty's love redeems the Beast, changing him into a handsome prince; more importantly, the power of the Beast's love for Beauty transforms him into a kind and unselfish person who is worthy of Beauty.

UNDERLINE YOUR THESIS SENTENCE.

- 2. Begin paragraphs with specific topic sentences that refer back to ideas in your thesis.**

Topic sentences should not include examples or quotations.

AN EXAMPLE OF WHAT NOT TO DO:

In *Beauty and the Beast*, the Beast releases Beauty so she can help her father, even though it means he will remain a lonely beast.
(This is an example, not a main idea.)

AN EXAMPLE OF WHAT YOU SHOULD DO:

In *Beauty and the Beast*, the Beast reveals how much he has changed when he makes unselfish choices out of love for Beauty.
(This is the main idea of your paragraph. Now use examples such as the one above to support it.)

UNDERLINE TOPIC SENTENCES.

- 3. Remember, incorporate direct quotations within your sentences. Do not let them "float" in your essay.**

AN EXAMPLE OF WHAT NOT TO DO:

William Cullen Bryant explores death in his poem "Thanatopsis." "The last bitter hour."
This quotation refers to the death we must all face.

AN EXAMPLE OF WHAT YOU SHOULD DO:

In "Thanatopsis," William Cullen Bryant explores the "last bitter hour" (9), that hour of death which comes to all people.

- 4. When using direct quotations, cite the author and page number in parentheses after the quotation.**

EXAMPLE: Because Jody does not understand Janie, Janie's life with him becomes monotonous and unfulfilling. She begins to feel like "a rut in the road" (Hurston 72); Janie has no hope for the future.

- 5. Remember to italicize long works of literature, such as novels, dramas, and epic poems. Short stories and poems are placed within quotation marks.**

- 6. Your essay must have an introduction, at least three body paragraphs, and a conclusion.**

- 7. Do not use contractions.**

- 8. Do not use first or second person (I, we, you, us etc.).**

- 9. Your essay must be in MLA format, double-spaced in Times New Roman 12-point font with one inch margins.**

- 10. Include an MLA Works Cited page.**