**English Regents – Literature Review**

**DIRECTIONS:** For the title assigned to you, fill in the following details. Include that which might be relevant in a Critical Lens essay.

**Title: The Catcher in the Rye Author: J.D. Salinger Genre: Novel**

Notes by: Alden Welles, Nick Caserma, Noah Hovde, Andrew Jung

**Major Characters** – Words to Describe Him/Her – **Motivation**

**Holden Caulfield**- sardonic, pessimistic, negative, depressed, immature, cynical- motivation is preserving childhood innocence

**Phoebe**- wise, helpful, smart, friendly, calm- motivation is helping Holden

**Stradlater**- athletic, condescending, stupid, arrogant- motivation is taking innocence from people

**Conflicts** (External vs. Internal)

Holden’s internal conflict- preserving childhood innocence

Holden’s external conflict- seeing Stradlater with Jane

-fitting-in in society

**Other Literary Elements Discussed** & **Relevance/Explanation**:

Symbolism- Holden wears the hat when he wants to be alone

Prostitute- Holden doesn’t want to cross over into the adult world

Ducks- Holden’s environment can’t sustain him

Museum- Everything there is always the same; Holden can forget that he is growing up

**Key Events/Turning Points & Their Significance (What does this event show/illustrate?)**:

* Sees curse words written on a wall- realizes that his goal is quixotic
* Carousel, gold ring- realizes that children need to learn things the hard way themselves
* Holden meets Phoebe- she realizes that Holden needs help and tries to help Holden; Holden ends up in a mental hospital
* Phoebe asking Holden what he likes- Holden comes to the realization that the only thing he likes is Allie
* Allie’s Death- reason behind Holden’s psychological issues

**Title: One Flew Over the Cuckoo’s Nest Author: Ken Keesey Genre:Novel**

**Notes by: Aveena, Victor, Stephen, Ryan**

**Major Characters** – Words to Describe Him/Her – **Motivation**

**Nurse Ratched**- Maintain order and control through the ward, break McMurphy

**McMurphy**- save patients, get out, change the ward and break the Nurse down, empower men, save himself then save others (his motivation evolves as he becomes more aware of what’s at stake and what sacrifices he’ll need to make in order to empower these men)

**Chief-** break out of the fog, gain individuality – to “become big again”

**Dr.Spivey**- help the patients

**Conflicts** (External vs. Internal)

Nurse- McMurphy is overtaking her authority

McMurphy- Nurse is slowing taking McMurphy in

Dr.Spivey- Nurse showing too much power

Conformity vs. Individualism – an individual’s struggle to maintain a unique sense of identity in a society that expects conformity (as represented by The Combine)

**Other Literary Elements Discussed** & **Relevance/Explanation**:

Setting- Mental Ward, 60’s

Symbolism- Control Panel, Fog, McMurphy being Christ figure, Boat trip, the Combine

**Key Events/Turning Points & Their Significance (What does this event show/illustrate?)**:

Control Panel- McMurphy attempts and fails to lift, Chief able to do it

Fog- Nurses restrictment towards the ward and the disconnect from reality

McMurphy- strong personality changes the ward

Pool Visit- McMurphy realizes Nurse is in total control of his release

Breaks Glass window- shows what he will do for the patients

Boat Trip- McMurphy shows patients to fend for themselves

McMurphy’s death- Chief smothers him to not have him live through the pain and maintain his strength

**Title: Author: Genre:**

**The Great Gatsby F. Scott Fitzgerald Novel**

**Notes by:** Sabrina Contreras, Simone Arzoomanian, Emily Danz, Eoghan O'brien, Chris Monaco, Rachel Kading

**Major Characters** – Words to Describe Him/Her – **Motivation**

**Jay Gatsby**- mysterious at first, temporarily wealthy, loving, determined > to win Daisy back after all the years

**Nick Carraway**- smart, intellectual, quiet, reflective > to make $

**Daisy Buchanan**- gold-digger, regretful, lost > status

**Tom Buchanan**- rich, rude, selfish > to continue the affair between him and Myrtle

**Myrtle** – obnoxious, loud, greedy > to be with Tom

**George** – nice, poor

**Conflicts** (External vs. Internal)

Love vs. Status

Gatsby vs. past/future

Gatsby vs. Society – trying desperately to fit in

**Other Literary Elements Discussed** & **Relevance/Explanation**:

Symbolism

-**eyes of Dr. TJ Eckleburg** > always someone watching / God

-**Green Lights** – Gatsby’s undying love for Daisy / his hopes

-**Valley of Ashes** – The failures of the American Dream

Imagery- colors, descriptive

**Setting** – East Egg > old $$; West Egg > new $$

**Key Events/Turning Points & Their Significance (What does this event show/illustrate?)**:

Gastby meets Dan Cody – realizes he wants to be like him

Gatsby meets Nick – makes him one of his only friends

Gatsby has a party hoping Daisy would show > she doesn’t

They all take a day trip to NY – Gatsby confronts Tom

Myrtle gets hit by a car (Daisy) – Gatsby takes blame

George (Myrtle’s Husband) shoots Gatsby, then commits suicide

**Title: Macbeth Author: William Shakespeare Genre: Tragedy**

**Notes by: Lauren, A.J., Jack, Trevor**

**Major Characters** – Words to Describe Him/Her – **Motivation**

**Macbeth –** *Ambitious, dynamic, power mad, determined, ruthless, hesitate (beginning), motivation- to become King of Scotland*  
**Lady Macbeth** – *Persuasive, brave, dynamic, ambitious, motivation- to see Macbeth become king of Scotland and stay king.*

**Macduff** – *Loyal, motivation- To take back Scotland from the tyrannical Macbeth*

**Malcolm** – heir to throne

**Banquo** – *Hesitant to take prophecy from witches, static, motivation – Find truth about Duncan’s murder*

**Conflicts** (External vs. Internal)

There were both internal as well as external conflicts in Macbeth.

Macbeth vs. Self-He struggles with his inner ambition and his sense of wrong and right.

Macbeth vs. Scotland- Slaughter of innocent people

**Other Literary Elements Discussed** & **Relevance/Explanation**:

**Symbolism** – Death of Macduff’s family described as deer being killed (Innocent), Banquo’s ghost coming to haunt Macbeth, Bloody dagger (Macbeth’s conscious), “Out damned spot, out!” – (Lady Macbeth fighting her guilt), Macbeth’s castle (Resembled hell)

**Foreshadowing-** Witches prophecy, Three aspirations ( “Being slain by man not born of woman, Burnham Woods moving, and Tree branch~)

Theme- Power is easily corruptible

**Title: The Glass Castle Author: Jeannette Walls Genre: Memoir**

**Notes by: Michael Manni, John Bhatti, Pat Mullen, Louis Ragonesi**

**Major Characters** – Words to Describe Him/Her – **Motivation**

**Jeannette Walls** – mature, hardworking, independent, and strong willed.

**Rex** – immature, alcoholic, and insensitive

**Rose Mary** – immature, insane, irresponsible, and insensitive

**Laurie** – intelligent, artistic, and independent

**Brian** – brave, and protective

**Maureen –** fragile, and dependent

**Conflicts** (External vs. Internal)

Jeannette vs. Rex, Jeannette vs. Self, Jeannette vs. Parents

Jeannette vs. Society

**Other Literary Elements Discussed** & **Relevance/Explanation**:

Motivation – Jeannette is motivated to escape her current life in search of a better one.

Flashback – Jeannette is looking back on her life and discussing it.

**Symbolism:**

**Key Events/Turning Points & Their Significance (What does this event show/illustrate?)**:

* Jeannette moving out – symbolizes freedom, Jeannette finally stands up for herself and moves out in search of a better life.
* Rex Steeling the Money – This was the breaking point in Jeannette’s patients; she finally realizes that she has no choice but to leave.
* Laurie Leaving – fueled Jeannette’s desire to leave the house and go and look for better opportunities for herself.

**The Crucible**- play- Arthur Miller Notes by Sara O’Brien & Devin Doran

**Setting:** Salem, MA 1692 ­ witch hunt hysteria

**Characterization:**

***John Proctor-***

***Complex-***

Has both good and bad traits ­ honorable man who has sinned

**Dynamic-**

In the beginning, Proctor struggles with guilt because of his affair. His relationship with Elizabeth is strained ­ by the end, he's able to redeem himself and regain his honor; he has also mended his conflict with Elizabeth who believes that "he has his goodness now."

***Elizabeth-***

Proctor's wife ­ forgives him at the end

***Abigail Williams-***

Main antagonist ­ Creates much of the hysteria ­ leads the other girls; intimidates Mary Warren into lying; wants to get rid of Elizabeth so she can have Proctor to herself.

***Mary Warren-***

Changes her story after being intimidated by Abigail; flips on John Proctor and calls him "The Devil's Man"

***Reverend Hale-***

Also dynamic ­ pursues witch hunt until he realizes that the hysteria is driving the court and innocent people are being hanged

***Reverend Parris****­*

Daughter is one of the "afflicted" ­ he's concerned mostly about his position and reputation;

***Rebecca Nurse-***

Represents pure goodness ­ midwife to Putnam's babies who died ­ the charges again Rebecca prove that anyone can be condemned.

***Thomas & Goody Putnam-***

Goody Putnam looking for someone to blame about babies; Putnam is land hungry and is accused to furthering witch trials so he can buy the land of those hanged

**Conflict:**

***Internal*** *(There are several for Proctor as the play unfolds)****-***

-In the beginning- struggles with guilt over the affair

-At the end- to die honorably or live with tarnished name

***External-***

Proctor vs Courts/Hysteria

**Motivation:**

-To make up for sin---->saving Elizabeth

-In the beginning- to maintain his good name (tears up confession)

**Climax:**

Tears up confession

**Resolution:**

He accepts his own decision & faces hanging- Elizabeth forgives him “he has his goodness now”

**Symbolism:**

***The Crucible-***

Test or trial- brings out true selves

**Allegory:**

McCarthyism- Red Scare of the 1950s

**Key Events:**

- John has affair with Abigail (internal struggle with guilt)

* + Abigail accuses Elizabeth to take her place
  + John confesses affair to expose Abigail’s true motives
  + Mary Warren- changes her story & accuses Proctor of being “the devil’s man”
  + To confess- signs witchcraft confession then tears it up (Climax)
  + Resolution- end- at peace with his decision