



Summer Assignments: British Literature Incoming Seniors!!!

1. Read Lamb's Shakespeare, a book written by Charles Lamb during the Romantic Period of British Literature as a way to reintroduce young people to the work of William Shakespeare whose poems and plays fell out of favor. Now you're reading it to introduce yourself to his plays in a very "language-friendly" way. Read the entire book.

Written Assignments:

- Choose one comedy and write a five paragraph essay on the characterization of the protagonist. (How is the character developed through the plot, other characters and the reactions to the other characters like the antagonist?) Use literary terms.
 - Choose one tragedy and discuss the direct and indirect characterization of the antagonist in a five paragraph essay. (See above)
2. Read an autobiography or a biography about a British person written by a British person.

Assignment:

- Choose a passage that you think has great significance. Write a summary of the passage and contextualize it (provide information about the situation in which something happens.) Explain why you think it's significant; this can include questions, insights, reactions, etc. The passage can be a couple of paragraphs or a page.
- Then choose 2-3 quotes that have significance for you. Write the quote out and explain the context of quote, why the person said it, what it meant to them, and why you chose it.

This paper should be 2 pages in length.

The reading of the books and both essays are due the first full day of literature class. You may contact the main office during the summer (T-Th 10am-4pm) to ask questions or email me at

Have a great summer!