**AMERICAN LITERATURE MIDTERM STUDY GUIDE**  Fall 2019

Cold Reading

American Dream poems:

* + Author’s purpose / attitude / perspective
  + Theme
  + Supporting a response with textual evidence
  + Author’s style
  + Identification of various literary devices
  + Vocabulary in context
  + Poetic / literary devices
    - Rhyme (end / internal)
    - Imagery
    - Diction
    - Anaphora (the repetition of a word or phrase at the beginning of successive clauses.)
    - Repetition
    - Catalog (a **literary device** used to give a list of things or multiple thoughts in a unified form.)
    - Vernacular (the language or dialect spoken by the ordinary people in a particular country or region.)
    - Figurative language
    - Personification
    - Rhetorical question (a question asked in order to create a dramatic effect or to make a point rather than to get an answer.)
    - Allusion

Vocabulary

1. Providence
2. Beset
3. Conciliatory
4. Undermine
5. Prodigious
6. Righteous
7. Beguile
8. Deference
9. Partisan
10. Enrapture
11. Daft
12. Somber
13. Privy
14. Reciprocal
15. Peremptory
16. Complacency
17. Libel
18. Supercilious
19. Idle
20. Acute
21. Resignation
22. Bastion
23. Undaunted
24. Falter

Writing / MLA

* MLA format (basic formatting, in-text citations, works cited)
* Integrating quotations (block quotes, sentence lead-ins, so-and-so says lead ins, blended quotes, capitalization, punctuation)
* Function / balance of concrete details and commentary (commentary vs. plot summary)

Rhetoric

* Parts of an argument (claim / reason / evidence / counterclaim / call to action)
* Rhetorical appeals (ethos / logos / pathos)
* Rhetorical devices
  + Alliteration
  + Allusion
  + Anaphora
  + Metaphor / simile
  + Repetition
  + Rhetorical question
* Logical fallacies
  + Hasty generalization
  + False causality
  + Either / Or
  + Slippery slope
  + Bandwagon
  + Sentimental appeal
  + Scare tactics
  + Appeal to false authority
  + Ad hominem
  + Straw man

**Treatment of titles:**

* Major works are italicized: books, plays, films, periodicals, databases, websites
* Minor works are placed in quotation marks: if the source is part of a larger work such as Articles, essays, chapters, poems, webpages, songs, and speeches.

**Quote Lead-ins**

Somebody Says: Mrs. Lopez stated, “Study for your midterm!”

Blende: Ally remembered Mrs. Lopez asking them to “study for their midterm” before she dismissed them.

Sentence: Mrs. Lopez wanted kids to score well so she implored them to work hard: “Study for your midterm.”

**Citation of Quote**

Mary cried, “I saw John Proctor with the Devil!” (Miller 45).

**Literary Works**

*A Raisin in the Sun* - setting, major themes, dreams of characters, inspiration

*The Crucible*  - matching quotations to themes

*The Great Gatsby* - setting, theme, literary devices