***Pride and Prejudice* by Jane Austen: Summative Assessment**

This unit is based around literature as social commentary. You are looking critically at social context as well as how specific literary elements drive the theme of texts.

The essential question is **"How can fiction provide insight on real problems?"**

The *Pride and Prejudice* summative essay will use one of the many AP Lit prompts that ponder aspects of the essential question.  I will use an adaptation of the AP Literature Ques 3 Rubric designed for longer, edited and revised essays. The question options are as follows:

1. Some novels and plays seem to advocate changes in social or political attitudes or in traditions. Choose such a novel or play and note briefly that the particular attitudes or traditions that the author apparently wishes to modify. Then analyze the techniques the author uses to influence the reader’s or audience’s views. Do not merely summarize the plot. (1987)

2. “The true test of comedy is that it shall awaken thoughtful laughter” –George Meredith Choose a novel, play, or long poem in which a scene or character awakens “thoughtful laughter” in the reader. Write an essay in which you show why this laughter is “thoughtful” and how it contributes to the meaning of the work. (1993)

3. A critic has said the one important measure of a superior work of literature is its ability to produce in the reader a healthy confusion of pleasure and disquietude. Select a literary work that produces this “healthy confusion.” Write an essay in which you explain the sources the “pleasure and disquietude” experienced by the readers of the work. Do not base your essay on a movie, television program, or other adaptation of a work. (1984)

4. In a novel by William Styron, a father tells his son that life “is a search for justice.” Choose a character from a novel or play who responds in some significant way to justice or injustice. Then write a well-developed essay in which you analyze the character’s understanding of justice, the degree to which the character’s search for justice is successful, and the significance of this search for the work as a whole. (2011)

5. “And, after all, our surroundings influence our lives and characters as much as fate, destiny or any supernatural agency.” --Pauline Hopkins*, Contending Forces*. Choose a novel or play in which cultural, physical, or geographical surroundings shape psychological or moral traits in a character. Then write a well-organized essay in which you analyze how surroundings affect this character and illuminate the meaning of the work as a whole. (2012)

Expectations:

* 1000-1200 words and MLA format
* **Thesis** that presents a narrow, defensible interpretation of the text in response to the selected prompt.
* Multiple structured **claims** supporting the thesis that offer ample **evidence** and **commentary** that consistently and explicitly explains the relationship between the specific evidence and the thesis.
* Demonstration of a **sophistication** of thought that uses some or all of the following:
  + exploration of complexities and/or tensions within the text,
  + illumination of your interpretation by situating it within a broader context,
  + accounting for alternative interpretations of the text,
  + employments of a style that is consistently vivid and persuasive,
  + use of relevant analogies to help an audience better understand an interpretation.

Due Date: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ uploaded to Turnitin.com by 11:59 pmUmm