



Short Story Bootcamp Basic Training Graduation

We are finalizing our *Short Story Bootcamp*, and now it's time for you to put your knowledge to work. You will work in a study group to analyze a randomly-selected story. The ultimate objective is to write a commentary on the story which uses specific examples from the selected text to support your viewpoint.

You will be graded on the following:

- Annotated copy of your story – this may be printed with hand annotations or an electronic copy marked with Track Changes notes
- Participation in team discussions and peer review sessions (Wednesday and Friday – informally assessed by teacher)
- Individual story analysis (formal paper)

Teams and stories will be determined by random draw. After your team and story have been selected, read ALL of the stories, but prepare to focus upon your team's randomly assigned short story:

Team 1: Charlotte Perkins Gilman, "The Yellow Wallpaper"

Team 2: Ursula K. LeGuin, "The Ones Who Walk Away from Omelas"

Team 3: Joyce Carol Oates, "Where Are You Going, Where Have You Been?"

Team 4: Gabriel Garcia Marquez, "A Very Old Man with Enormous Wings"

Team 5: Flannery O'Connor, "Good Country People"

Use the *Prose Writers' Tools* map to guide your annotation. Consider which of the tools are being employed in a way that reveals the author's overall theme in the story. For example, both John Updike's "A&P" and Alice Walker's "Everyday Use" are successful because of their choice of the first person point of view, which helps to create the indelible characters of Sammy the checkout clerk and Maggie and Dee's mother. You can discuss strong characterization, the success of the use of dialogue, how symbols in the story convey meaning—your choices are open. Whatever you choose to highlight, you should be able to select specific details from the text to support your conclusions.

In your team, you will collaborate to discuss and expand your knowledge and understanding of your selected story. Although some class time will be provided for collaboration (Mon, Wed, Fri), you may also post to www.thatenglishteacher.com AP Lit Blog to continue the discussion. You will also be relying on your study team to complete a peer review of your paper draft before you revise.

Your 500-word commentary (that's two double-spaced pages) should be submitted to Turnitin by the end of the day Sunday, October 5th.