**(H)ENGLISH LANGUAGE ARTS (ELA) 2022-23 October 12, 2022**

**Today’s Agenda (Day 34)**

1. Housekeeping Items

🡪

1. Homework Check:

🡪

1. Class Activity:

🡪**BEGIN: Arthur Miller’s Death of a Salesman**

🡪THURSDAY: Review literary elements of Bradbury’s “The Veldt”

🡪FRIDAY: Ray Bradbury’s “The Veldt” – In-Class Essay

HOMEWORK:

* READ: **Death of a Salesman 🡪 end of Act 1 [by Wednesday]; end of Act 2 [by Friday]**
* COMPLETE: Bradbury’s “The Veldt” Essay Outline; Death of Salesman Vocabulary
* STUDY: Death of a Salesman Quizzes, Miller Vocabulary Quiz
* **TERM ESSAY #2**: Exam the historical context in which *Grapes of Wrath* and *Death of Salesman* was written and occurred.
1. What changed between the time of the Great Depression and post-WWII America (economically, socially, politically)?
2. What things seem to be valued in American society during this period of history?
3. Discuss the themes of family and community in the two literary works. What are the meanings and importance of family and community to the characters in the literary works? What are the benefits of community? What are the drawbacks? How did the historical context (economically, socially, politically) contribute to the value systems of the family and community during this time period?
* TERM ESSAY IN-CLASS WRITING: **November 7 & 8, 2022**

Vocabulary – Death of a Salesman

|  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| Agitate | Anemic | Approbation | Audacious | Aura | Avid | Bewilder |
| Candid | carte blanche | Compose | Contempt | Dictate | Dispel | Enthrall |
| Evade | Feasible | free and clear | Gist | Hercules | Idealism | Idyllic |
| Imbue | Immerse | Implacably | Incarnate | Incipient | Incontinence | Incredulous |
| Indignant | Insinuate | J.P. Morgan | Laconic | Liable | Limber | Mercurial |
| Mortgage | Nominate | Pennant | Petty | Philandering | Poised | Pompous |
| Providence | Raucous | Regents | Reminiscence | Remiss | Repress | Requiem |
| Resignation | Resolve | Revolution | Seethe | Somber | Stolid | Subdued |
| Subside | Summon | Temperament | Theme | Thomas Edison | Trepidation | Utterly |
| Vengeful | Yearn |  |  |  |  |  |

REMINDERS:

* QUIZ: **Miller Vocabulary 🡪 Oct. 17**
* QUIZ: **Miller [end of Act 1] 🡪 Oct. 20**
* QUIZ: **Miller [end of Act 2] 🡪 Oct. 24**

**(H)ENGLISH LANGUAGE ARTS (ELA) 2022-23 SHORT STORY ACTIVITY**

**The Veldt – Ray Bradbury**

**I.** **In PAIRS, choose from among the following elements of literary analysis to research, analyze and discuss with the class.**

 \*Author biography & book context \*plot summary

 \*characters \*themes

 \*style \*historical context

**II.** **Read the essay prompts below. Choose one and be prepared to create an essay outline.**

a) "The Veldt" deals with human beings who use technology to perpetrate evil. Can you think of any other stories or films that have a similar theme? Can you think of some stories or films where technology is used for good? If you were going to write a similar story, would you portray technology as good or evil? Why?

b) The early 1950s was a time when the United States was gripped by a fear of Communism known as the Red Scare. Research the form of government known as Communism. What are the main ideas behind this system of government? Why do you think it seemed so threatening to the United States in the middle of the twentieth century?

c) In psychoanalysis, people's thoughts and feelings are analyzed to help them sort out problems. What if George had sent Wendy and Peter to a psychoanalyst immediately upon realizing that the nursery was becoming a threat? Do you think the story would have turned out differently? Why or why not? What do you think Wendy and Peter would have told the psychoanalyst? Write an imaginary conversation between these three characters.

d) If you were going to design your own Happy-life Home, what automated conveniences would you put in it? Would you put in any safety mechanisms in case something went wrong? If so, what kind of mechanisms would you install?

e) Bradbury’s work is commentary on his prediction of society projected forward from 1950.

Based on the central conflict of man versus machine and loss of human connection, describe the values of this society. Why must they live in a Happylife home? Why do George and Lydia believe that nothing is good enough for their children? What is suggested by the fact that they take sedatives to go to sleep at night?

f) Bradbury uses the names Peter and Wendy as an allusion to the characters in the story of Peter Pan.

What is suggested by Bradbury’s use of the names? How are similar and dissimilar to the characters of Peter Pan are they? Is Bradbury being ironic? If so, how?

g) Characters are an integral and important part of almost all novels.

Compare and contrast the characters of George and Lydia. How do they react differently to the children? To the nursery? How are their reactions similar? How do they view their lives as a family? Is there a flaw in each of their personalities? Be specific and give examples.?

h) Often readers identify with the protagonist, by putting themselves in the character’s situation and wondering what they would do.

Do you think one of the values of literature is to serve as a reflection of oneself? Why or why not? Socrates said, "Know thyself." How can reading a short story such at The Veldt help a reader to know him/herself? Do you find yourself reflecting on your own character and relationships to others and to technology when reading The Veldt? Why or why not? Discuss one character with whom you identify and why you feel that way. Use examples from The Veldt and your own life to support your answer.

i) The Veldt is told from the third person point of view in George’s perspective. Characters are an important part of what makes The Veldt interesting.

Thoroughly discuss and analyze George. What are his strengths and weaknesses? How does he contribute to the plot? Is he a sympathetic character? Is he usually likable? Seldom likable? Use specific examples to illustrate your ideas.

j) Foreshadowing is used in almost all works of fiction.

What is foreshadowing? Identify three instances of foreshadowing in The Veldt and what they foreshadow? How does foreshadowing contribute to a story's suspense? Are there any incidences that you thought foreshadows a future event, but it does not do so?

k) Bradbury’s work often makes a political statement about the future of our society.

Research and give a brief biographical sketch of Ray Bradbury. Do you think there is always some of the author's own life in his/her novels? Why or why not? Give examples. Name one idea/concept you think may have been a part of the Bradbury's agenda. Analyze that idea throughout the book and discuss Bradbury's probable agenda concerning that idea.

l) Thoroughly analyze how the setting informs the plot in The Veldt. Trace and analyze one major theme of The Veldt. How is the theme represented by symbolism? By the characters' behaviors? By the action? Use examples from The Veldt to support your answer.

m) Examine the final scene in The Veldt. David McClean walks into the nursery where the children are sitting having a picnic lunch watching the lions feed.

What are the lions eating? Why is their behavior disturbing? What is significant about Wendy offering Dr. McClean a cup of tea? What does their behavior suggest about this society, or future society?