

## AP Literature Summer Reading Assignment 2019-20

To prepare for next year's AP English Literature and Composition class, you are required to read over the summer *Frankenstein* by Mary Shelley and *A Lesson Before Dying* by Ernest Gaines. We will spend some time discussing these novels, which will serve as the sources for a four to five page take home analysis. The following questions will help you focus on important issues in the novels as well as prepare you for the literary analysis that will follow.

This assignment is due on the first day of school; it must be typed and in a 12 point font. Be sure to cite the page number for each quotation.

Question 1: **Injustice** is a pivotal motif in both novels. Cite five specific quotations from each novel that illustrate injustice. After each citation explain how the quotation exemplifies this motif.

Question 2: The Creation and Jefferson are unable to experience **dignity** in a cruel world. Cite five specific quotations from each novel to illustrate this. After each citation explain how the quotation reflects the desire for dignity.

Question 3:

"Life is difficult.

This is a great truth, one of the greatest truths. It is a great truth because once we truly see this truth, we transcend it. Once we truly know that life is difficult - once we truly understand and accept it - then life is no longer difficult. Because once it is accepted, the fact that life is difficult no longer matters." - M. Scott Peck

Cite 5 specific quotation from each novel that reflect difficulties of life experienced by the characters. After each passage discuss how the characters either accept or negate their difficulties. How does this affect their ability to see the "truth"?

I hope you have a wonderful summer vacation and that you find these novels engaging and academically stimulating.

See you in August!