

AP Language and Composition (11th): Summer Work 2014

All students entering AP Language and Composition must complete the summer work listed below. This work will provide the foundation for the advanced coursework we will complete throughout the school year. Tests on the material—including an in-class essay—will be given during the first few days of school. Considering the rigor expected in AP courses, students who do not demonstrate proficiency on these tests may be removed from the class and placed in a lower English class. Students and/or parents who have questions may contact me: (send to both email addresses during the summer)

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TEXTBOOK REQUIREMENTS: You will need to obtain a copy of *Everything's an Argument*, fourth edition with readings. It's very important that you get the fourth edition so that we all have the same version of the book. You can find this book for very low prices (less than \$5.00) from Amazon and half.com. You need to have this book by the end of the first week of school.

Assignment #1: Read *The Glass Castle* by Jeannette Walls. Answer the following questions for the novel on a separate sheet of paper.

1. Though The Glass Castle is brimming with unforgettable stories, which scenes were the most memorable for you? Which were the most shocking, the most inspiring, the funniest?
2. The first story Walls tells of her childhood is that of her burning herself severely at age three, and her father dramatically taking her from the hospital. "You're safe now" (14). Why do you think she opens with that story, and how does it set the stage for the rest of the memoir?
3. What is the "glass castle" and what does it signify to Jeannette and her father?
4. Rex Walls often asked his children, "Have I ever let you down?" Why was this question (and the required, "No, Dad" response) so important for him—and for his kids? On what occasions did he actually come through for them?
5. What kind of man was Rex Walls? What were his strengths and weaknesses, his flaws and contradictions?
6. What kind of woman was Rose Mary Walls? What do you think of her description of herself as an "excitement addict"? (93).
7. In college, Jeannette is singled out by a professor for not understanding the plight of homeless people; instead of defending herself, she keeps quiet. Why do you think she does this? Is homelessness a choice?
8. The two major pieces of the memoir—one half in the desert and one half in West Virginia—feel distinct. What effect did such a big move have on the family—and on your reading of the story? How would you describe the shift in the book's tone?
9. What was Jeannette's relationship to her siblings? Were you surprised to learn that, as adults, Jeannette and her siblings remained close to their parents? Why do you think this is?
10. What do parents owe children and what do children owe parents?
11. Though it portrays an incredibly hard, scrabbled life, The Glass Castle is never sad or depressing. How do you think the author achieved that effect?
12. The most extraordinary thing about The Glass Castle is that despite everything, Jeannette Walls refuses to condemn her parents. Were you able to be equally nonjudgmental? Explain your feelings.

Assignment #2: An understanding of the literary devices that writers use is extremely important for the AP English courses taken during the junior and senior years. A list of terms is attached; the PAPE9 and PAPE10 terms should be review. Students are required to (1) make flashcards for ALL the AP Language terms—and any of the Pre-AP English 9 and 10 terms they don't already know—(term on the front, definition/examples on the back) and (2) memorize the definitions. Although we will work toward understanding and applying these concepts throughout the school year, students will need to know the basic definitions for the summer work test given during the first few days of school.

Assignment #3: Having a wide vocabulary is a critical need for AP students, both for reading comprehension and appropriately formal, academic writing. A list of common affixes and tone words is attached. Understanding these affixes can help students make intelligent guesses about unfamiliar words they may encounter on practice tests and the AP exam itself. The tone words occur frequently on both AP exams. Students need to (1) create flashcards for each of the affixes [with the affix on the front, definition on the back], (2) create flashcards for each of the tone words, and (3) memorize them. Students will need to know these for the summer work test given during the first few days of school.

Assignment #4-5: In order to better understand literature—and certainly the literature read in advanced English courses—students need to have at least a basic understanding of references to commonly known things. We call these *allusions* and there are different types of allusions: classical [from Greek and Roman mythology], historical, religious, and literary. This year, we will be reviewing some of the most commonly referenced religious allusions. Students need to (1) create flashcards for each of the allusions attached [allusion on the front, explanation on the back] and (2) learn them. Students will need to know these for the summer work test given during the first few days of school.

The flashcards created for Assignments 2, 3, and 4 and 5 are an investment in the work we will do all year. **Make them early in the summer and study them frequently.** Flashcards will be used all year, as students will be assessed on the terms and vocabulary over and over again (this year and in AP Literature the following year, too).

LITERARY TERMS (Assignment #2):

Pre-AP 9 (Review): OPTIONAL FLASHCARDS – Create flashcards for any of these PAPE9 terms you don't already know

1. **characterization:** the method a writer uses to develop a character
 - a. **flat:** a simple character that is one-dimensional (shows one trait) (ex: Mr. Ewell from *To Kill a Mockingbird*)
 - b. **round:** a complex character that is multi-dimensional (displays many traits) (ex: Atticus Finch from *To Kill a Mockingbird*)
 - c. **static:** a character that stays the same from the beginning to the end of a work (ex: Calpurnia from *To Kill a Mockingbird*)
 - d. **dynamic:** a character that changes from the beginning to the end of a work (ex: Scout Finch from *To Kill a Mockingbird*)
 - e. **protagonist:** the main character of a work
 - f. **antagonist:** the character that opposes the main character of a work
 - g. **character foil:** a character that acts as an opposite to another character and, because of this, emphasizes the differences between them (ex: Mercutio and Benvolio are character foils in *Romeo and Juliet*. In comparison to the hot-headed Mercutio, Benvolio's rational behavior is even more pronounced.)
2. **point of view:** the perspective from which a story is told
 - a. **narrator:** a storyteller of any kind
 - b. **first person:** the narrator tells a story from his perspective and refers to himself as "I"
 - c. **third person limited:** the narrator knows the actions, feelings, and motivations of only one or a handful of characters
 - d. **third person omniscient:** the narrator knows all the actions, feelings, and motivations of all the characters

3. **plot**: the arrangement of events in a story
 - a. **exposition**: the point in the plot when background information is revealed
 - b. **inciting incident**: introduces the major conflict in a work
 - c. **rising action**: the early part of the story which builds momentum and develops the story's main conflict
 - d. **climax**: the moment of highest tension in the story
 - e. **falling action**: the latter part of the narrative in which the protagonist responds to the events of the climax
 - f. **resolution**: an ending that satisfactorily answers all the questions raised over the course of the plot
4. **conflict**: the central struggle that moves the plot forward
 - a. **internal** (man vs. self) vs. **external** (man vs. man, man vs. nature, man vs. society, man vs. fate/supernatural/machine)
5. **irony**: a technique of detachment that draws awareness to the discrepancies between what *is* and what *seems to be*
 - a. **verbal**: the use of a statement that implies its opposite (ex: sarcasm is a type of verbal irony)
 - b. **situational**: a technique in which one understanding of a situation stands in sharp contrast to another (ex: A sailor is stranded in a boat, surrounded by water, but he is dying of thirst → we would expect him to have all the water in the world or for a sailor—if he were too die ANY way, by drowning in water—but, he is actually dying from a *lack* of drinkable water.)
 - c. **dramatic**: a technique in which the author lets the audience or reader in on a character's situation while the character himself remains in the dark (ex: In *Romeo and Juliet*, the characters think Juliet is dead, but the audience knows she has just taken the Friar's sleeping potion.)
6. **symbol**: a concrete thing that is used to represent an abstract idea or concept [ex: The American flag (a concrete object) represents freedom, patriotism, liberty (abstract concepts)]
7. **figures of speech**: language not meant to be taken literally
 - a. **metaphor**: a *direct* comparison between two unlike things (ex: Shakespeare—"All the world's a stage, and all the men and women merely players..." → comparing the world to a stage, people to actors on the stage)
 - b. **simile**: an *indirect* comparison between two unlike things using "like" or "as" (ex: Carl Sandburg—"Life is like an onion: You peel it off one layer at a time, and sometimes you weep." → comparing life to an onion using "like"; saying it is *like* something rather than it *is* something else)
 - c. **personification**: giving human attributes to animals, objects, or ideas (ex: Emily Dickinson—"Because I could not stop for Death,/ he kindly stopped for me..." → giving Death the human characteristic of "kindly stopping")
8. **mood**: the atmosphere of a work (as the reader experiences it)
9. **tone**: a writer's attitude toward his/her subject
10. **diction**: a writer's word choices
 - a. **denotation**: the dictionary definition of a word (ex: *group* = more than one; this is a neutral definition and there are all types of groups)
 - b. **connotation**: the implied, suggested, or "loaded" meaning attached to a word (Words can have the same denotative meaning, but very different connotative meanings. Ex: *gang* = this can also mean more than one, but there is a negative implied meaning; *party* = this can also mean more than one, but there is a more positive implied meaning)
11. **foreshadowing**: hints about what will happen later in the story
12. **flashback**: an event or scene taking place before the present time in the narrative
13. **setting**: the time and place in which a story occurs
14. **theme**: the central, universal idea explored in a literary work

Pre-AP 10 (Review): OPTIONAL FLASHCARDS – Create flashcards for any of these PAPE10 terms you don't already know

1. **allegory**: a story with multiple levels of meaning – a literal level (what is ACUTALLY happening in the story) and a deeper, more symbolic level (commenting on religion, society, politics, etc.). (ex: Edgar Allan Poe's "The Masque of the Red Death" or George Orwell's *Animal Farm*)
2. **syntax**: the way a writer chooses to join words into phrases, clauses, and sentences
3. **rhetorical question**: a question asked to emphasize a point, with no answer really expected
4. **appeal to ethos**: an appeal to a person's character, credibility, sincerity, or trustworthiness
5. **appeal to pathos**: an appeal to a person's emotions
6. **appeal to logos**: an appeal to a person's sense of logic
7. **pathetic fallacy**: when events that are happening in nature (the setting) mimic what is happening in the plot of a story (ex: a clap of thunder at the most suspenseful moment)

8. **analogy**: a comparison between two things in which the more complex is explained in terms of the more simple (ex: Asking the wealthy nations of the world to feed the impoverished nations is similar to asking people on a full lifeboat to take on more passengers.)
9. **oxymoron**: the association of two contrary terms side by side (ex: same difference, wise fool)
10. **paradox**: a statement that appears to be contradictory or absurd on the surface, but actually expresses a deeper truth (ex: Oscar Wilde—" And all men kill the thing they love.")
11. **hyperbole**: an excessive overstatement or exaggeration (ex: My professor is a total psychopath.)
12. **anachronism**: anything out of its proper historical time (ex: Shakespeare writing about a clock in *The Tragedy of Julius Caesar* – a clock had not yet been invented in Roman times)
13. **allusions**: a reference to something that is believed to be commonly known
 - a. **biblical**: a reference to the Bible (also called, more generally, **religious** allusion)
 - b. **classical**: a reference to Greek or Roman mythology
 - c. **historical**: a reference to an important historical event
 - d. **literary**: a reference to a famous work of literature
14. **rhetorical modes**: patterns of organization developed to achieve a specific purpose
 - a. **narration**: writing that tells a story
 - b. **description**: writing that describes
 - c. **persuasion/argumentation**: writing that tries to convince the reader of a particular point
 - d. **exposition**: writing that explains

Poetry

15. **speaker**: the author, speaker, or person whose perspective (real or imagined) is being advanced in a speech or piece of writing
16. **persona**: the speaker, voice, or character assumed by an author (the "mask" the writer wears when telling a story)
17. organization
 - a. **stanza**: grouping of lines in a poem
 - b. **couplet**: two successive rhymed lines that are equal in length
 - c. **quatrain**: a four-line stanza
 - d. **sestet**: a six-line stanza
 - e. **octave**: an eight-line stanza
18. sound devices
 - a. **rhyme scheme**: the pattern of rhyme in a poem
 - b. **slant rhyme**: an imperfect rhyme
 - c. **alliteration**: repetition of similar sounds at the *beginning* of words (ex: Dr. Seuss—"Barber, baby, bubbles, and a bumblebee.")
 - d. **assonance**: repetition of similar *vowel* sounds in a sequence of nearby words (Edgar Allan Poe—"And so, all the night-tide, I lie down by the side/ Of my darling, my darling, my life and my bride." → repetition of the long "i" sound)
 - e. **consonance**: repetition of similar *consonant* sounds in a sequence of nearby words
 - f. **onomatopoeia**: the use of words that sound like the thing they refer to (ex: Bow-wow. Crackle. Buzz. Pop.)
 - g. **euphony**: a pleasing arrangement of sounds
 - h. **cacophony**: the clash of harsh sounds within a sentence or phrase
19. syntactical devices
 - a. **end-stopped line**: when there is a break at the end of a line of poetry indicated by a comma, period, semicolon, or other punctuation mark
 - b. **caesura**: an abrupt break in the middle of a line of poetry
 - c. **enjambment**: a line of poetry that continues into the next line with no break
 - d. **refrain**: a phrase or group of lines that is repeated at significant moments in a poem

Drama

20. **dialogue**: speech between two or more characters
21. **monologue**: speech from one person
22. **interior monologue**: a record of a character's thoughts
23. **aside**: when a character in a play speaks directly to the audience, but the other characters on the stage cannot hear his words
24. **soliloquy**: when a character, alone on the stage, speaks her thoughts aloud
25. **act**: the major (larger) section into which a play is divided
26. **scene**: the smaller sections into which an act is divided
27. **stage directions**: instructions written into the script of a play, indicating stage actions, movements of performers, or production requirements

C. AP Language & Composition Terms: REQUIRED FLASHCARDS – All students must create flashcards for terms with definitions listed below. (47 flashcards)

1. **understatement**: an intentional representation of something as less than it is
 - a. **meiosis**: a form of understatement or “belittling” something; something is referred to in terms less important than it really deserves (ex: Mercutio in *Romeo and Juliet* refers to his mortal wound as a “scratch.”)
 - b. **litotes**: a form of understatement in which a statement is affirmed by negating its opposite (ex: He is not unfriendly → He is friendly.)
2. **pun**: a play on words that have similar sounds but different meanings
3. **double entendre**: a type of pun or play on words, especially a play on words that has a sexual meaning
4. **cliché**: an expression that has been used so often it has lost all its power (ex: Turn over a new leaf.)
5. **dialect**: a distinctive variety of language spoken by members of an identifiable regional group, nation, or social class
6. **colloquialism**: an informal expression or slang
7. **jargon**: terminology which is especially defined in relationship to a specific activity, profession, group, or event (ex: words understood by law enforcement, phrases understood by gamers)
8. **idiom**: a common expression that has acquired a meaning that differs from its literal meaning (ex: It’s raining cats and dogs.)
9. **malapropism**: a confused, comically inaccurate use of a long word or words (ex: It was the very *pineapple* of success. – instead of the correct use: It was the very *pinna*cle of success.)
10. **euphemism**: the use of more polite language to express vulgar or distasteful ideas (ex: Saying someone “passed away” instead of “died”)
11. **epithet**: an adjective or phrase that describes a prominent feature of a person or thing (ex: *Shoeless* Joe Jackson, Richard *the Lionheart*)
12. **aphorism**: a statement of some general principle, expressed in a memorable way by condensing much wisdom into few words (ex: Nietzsche—“The vanity of others offends our taste only when it offends our vanity.”)
13. **apostrophe**: a direct address to an absent or dead person or to an object (ex: Walt Whitman’s poem “O Captain, My Captain” was written upon the *death* of Abraham Lincoln → Lincoln could not respond.)
14. **zeugma**: the use of one word in a sentence to modify two other words in the sentence, typically in two different ways (ex: “Mr. Pickwick took his hat and his leave.” This sentence uses “took” in two different ways.)
15. syntactical devices:
 - a. Balance
 - i. **parallelism**: the arrangement of similarly constructed clauses, sentences, or verse lines in a pairing or other sequence suggesting some correspondence between them (ex: Shakespeare—“Before, a joy proposed; behind, a dream.”)
 - ii. **balanced sentence**: a sentence consisting of two or more clauses that are parallel in structure
 - iii. **antithesis**: a contrast or opposition of ideas (ex: Shakespeare –“Not that I loved Caesar less,/ but that I loved Rome more.”)
 - b. Repetition
 - i. **anaphora**: repeating the same word or phrase at the *beginning* of lines, clauses, or sentences (ex: Churchill—“We shall fight on the beaches, we shall fight on the landing grounds, we shall fight in the fields and in the streets, we shall fight in the hills.”)
 - ii. **epistrophe**: repeating the same word or phrase at the *end* of lines, clauses, or sentences (ex: Ralph Waldo Emerson—“What lies behind us and what lies before us are tiny compared to what lies within us.”)
 - iii. **antimetabole**: (type of chiasmus) a verbal pattern in which the second half of an expression is balanced against the first but with the words in reverse grammatical order (A-B-C, C-B-A) (ex: Malcolm X—“We didn’t land on Plymouth Rock; Plymouth Rock landed on us.”)
 - iv. **polysyndeton**: (“poly-” → many) repeated use of conjunctions (and, or, but, etc.) to link together a succession of words, clauses, or sentences (ex: Maya Angelou—“Let the whitefolks have their money and power and segregation and sarcasm and big houses and schools and lawns like carpets, and books, and mostly--mostly--let them have their whiteness.”)
 - c. Omission (taking out)
 - i. **asyndeton**: removing conjunctions between clauses (ex: I came, I saw, I conquered.)
 - ii. **ellipsis**: (hint: look for ellipses ...) removing from a sentence a word or words that would be required for complete clarity but which can usually be understood from the context (ex: Romeo loves Juliet and Juliet, Romeo.)
 - d. Change of normal word order
 - i. **anastrophe**: an inversion (switching) of the normal order of words

- ii. **chiasmus**: a verbal pattern (a type of antithesis) in which the second half of an expression is balanced against the first with the parts reversed (ex: Hillary Clinton—"In the end, the true test is not the speeches a president delivers; it's whether the president delivers on the speeches.")
 - iii. **parenthesis**: (hint: look for dashes or parentheses) a qualifying, explanatory, or appositive word, phrase, clause, or sentence that *interrupts* a sentence without otherwise affecting it, often indicated in writing by commas, parentheses, or dashes (ex: William Smith—you must know him—is coming tonight.)
 - e. **stream-of-consciousness**: the continuous flow of perceptions, thoughts, feelings, and memories; representing mental processes in an unpunctuated or disjointed form
16. **metonymy**: a figure of speech that replaces the name of one thing with the name of something else closely associated with it (ex: The crown carries many responsibilities. This actually means a role in the monarchy carries many responsibilities, but the crown is *associated* with the monarchy.)
 17. **synecdoche**: a figure of speech in which the part of something stands for the whole (ex: One thousand sails pursued Paris when he fled with Helen of Troy. → Actually, one thousand *ships* pursued Paris; the sail is just a *part* of the whole ship)
 18. **conceit**: an extended metaphor that runs throughout a work
 19. **motif**: a situation, incident, idea, image, or character-type that is found in many different literary works, folktales, or myths
 20. **archetype**: a symbol, theme, setting, or character-type that recurs in different times and places in myth, literature, folklore, dreams, and rituals so frequently to suggest that it represents some essential element of the universal human experience
 21. **synaesthesia**: a blending of different senses (ex: His shirt was a loud shade of blue. – blending the senses of sound and sight)
 22. **fable**: a brief tale that conveys a moral lesson, usually by giving speech and manners to animals and inanimate things (ex: Aesop's Fables)
 23. **parable**: a brief tale illustrating some lesson or moral (not using animals); a type of allegory
 24. **satire**: a mode of writing that exposes the failings of individuals, institutions, or societies to ridicule or scorn them (ex: *The Adventures of Huckleberry Finn*)
 25. **parody**: a mocking imitation of the style of a literary work or works, ridiculing through exaggerated mimicry (ex: Saturday Night Live)
 26. **caricature**: a picture, description, etc., ludicrously exaggerating the peculiarities or defects of persons or things
 27. **overstatement**: a type of exaggeration; to state something too strongly
 28. **sarcasm**: a sharply ironical taunt; sneering or cutting remark
 29. **wit**: quick, amusing cleverness
 30. **trope**: a figure of speech (using words in senses beyond their literal meanings)
 31. **in medias res** (Latin: "into the middle of things"): when a narrator begins telling a story at some exciting point in the middle of the action
 32. **rhetoric**: the study of effective, persuasive language use; the art of communicating effectively
 33. **rhetorical strategies/devices/techniques**: any strategy (such as all those listed above) used to communicate effectively given the speaker, subject, audience, context, and purpose

VOCABULARY (Assignment #3):

A. Prefixes and Root Words (34 flashcards)

Learn the breakdown of these 14 basic words and you will hold the master key to a super vocabulary of 100,000 words. Each of the shaded boxes should have its own flashcard, with the definition written on the back. It is strongly recommended that you write the other spellings under the prefix/root word on the front, and examples to help you remember on the back under the definition. 34 shaded boxes = 34 flashcards.

PREFIX	Its other spellings	Its meaning	MASTER WORD	ROOT	Its other spellings	Its meaning
1. de-	--	down or away	DETAIN	tain	tent, ten, tin	to have or hold
2. inter-	--	between	INTERMITTENT	mitt	miss, mis, mit	to send
3. pre-	--	before	PRECEPT	cept	cap, capt, cip, ceive, ceit	to take or seize
4. ob-	oc-of-op-	to, toward, against	OFFER	fer	lat, lay	to bear or carry
5. in-	im-ir-il-	into	INSIST	sist	sta, stat	to stand, endure, or persist
6. mono-	--	one or alone	MONOGRAPH	graph	--	to write
7. epi-	--	over, upon, beside	EPILOGUE	log	ology	speech or science

8. ad-	a-ac-ag-al-an- ap-ar-as-at-	to or toward	ASPECT	spect	spec, spi, spy	to look
9. un-	--	not	UNCOMPLICATED	plic	plex, play	to fold, bend, twist, or interweave
com-	co-col-con-cor	with or together	UNCOMPLICATED	plic	plex, play	to fold, bend, twist, or interweave
10. non-	--	not	NONEXTENDED	tend	tens, tent	to stretch
ex-	e-ef-	out, formerly	NONEXTENDED	tend	tens, tent	to stretch
11. re-	--	back or again	REPRODUCTION	duct	duc, duit, duk	to lead, make, shape, or fashion
pro-	--	forward or in favor of	REPRODUCTION	duct	duc, duit, duk	to lead, make, shape, or fashion
12. in-	ir-il-im-	not	INDISPOSED	pos	pound, pon, post	to put or place
dis-	di-dif-	apart from	INDISPOSED	pos	pound, pon, post	to put or place
13. over-	sur	above	OVERSUFFICIENT	fic	fac, fact, fash, feat, fect	to make or do
sub-	suc-suf-sug- sup-sus-	under	OVERSUFFICIENT	fic	fac, fact, fash, feat, fect	to make or do
14. mis-	--	wrong or wrongly	MISTRANScribe	scribe	scriv, scrip, scrib, script	to write
trans-	tran-, tra-	across or beyond	MISTRANScribe	scribe	scriv, scrip, scrib, script	to write

NOTE: There are two different definitions to learn for the prefix "in-."

Example:

[front of flashcard]	[back of flashcard]
com-	with or together
[co-, col-, con-, cor-]	[Examples: community, commune]

B. Tone Words (20 flashcards)

1. **ambiguous:** unclear; could be interpreted more than one way
2. **ambivalent:** undecided; having both positive and negative feelings towards something
3. **apathetic:** showing no emotion or concern
4. **belligerent:** eager to fight or argue
5. **candid:** to be honest, open, outspoken
6. **condescending:** to talk "down" to someone, like that person is beneath you or of less quality (as if you are superior)
7. **contemptuous:** to be full of hatred towards someone
8. **didactic:** teaching, instructive
9. **earnest:** full of seriousness, effort, and focus
10. **facetious:** joking around, usually at an inappropriate time; being sarcastic
11. **holier-than-thou:** acting like you are so religious that you are better than everyone else; being judgmental
12. **impartial:** not taking sides
13. **incredulous:** unbelieving
14. **nostalgic:** happily remembering the past, especially remembering the past as a better time than the present
15. **objective:** not taking sides
16. **subjective:** expressing/inserting one's own opinions into an observation
17. **pedantic:** showing off or trying to impress someone with one's intelligence
18. **patronizing:** to talk down to someone, to treat a person almost as if he or she is your child
19. **poignant:** something that moves you emotionally
20. **pretentious:** "putting on airs"

RELIGIOUS ALLUSIONS (Assignment #4): (25 flashcards)

1. **Pharisees/Pharisaical:** a hypocrite who upholds the letter of the law, but not its spirit; a hypocritical act [The Pharisees were a Jewish sect that insisted on strict adherence to written law. Jesus rebuked the Pharisees often for being outwardly religious but inwardly corrupt, only observing the law to impress others, but having no true mercy or love for others.]
2. **Scapegoat:** a person who is blamed or punished for someone else's misdeeds [According to the Book of Leviticus, each year on the Day of Atonement, a priest would symbolically place the sins of the Israelites on a goat and then send it out into the wilderness, taking the sins of the people with it.]
3. **Philistines/Philistinism:** a person with no appreciation for culture and whose tastes are commonplace [In the Old Testament, the Philistines were enemies of the Israelites. In a famous biblical story, David successfully fought the giant Philistine warrior, Goliath.]
4. **Methuselah:** an extremely old person [Methuselah is the oldest of the patriarchs in the Bible. He lived to be 969 years old.]
5. **Babylon:** a place of decadence and corruption [Babylon was the capital of the ancient Babylonian Empire. The city was known for its luxury and corruption. The Jews were exiled there from 597 to 538 B.C.E. and the prophet, Daniel, became counselor to the King of Babylon, for whom he interpreted the "handwriting on the wall." Eventually, the Jews were allowed to return to Israel.]
6. **Pearls before swine:** to "cast one's pearls before swine" is to offer something precious to someone, or a group of people, unable to appreciate the value of what they are being given [In the Sermon on the Mount, Jesus admonished his followers to "cast not your pearls before swine." That is, his followers were to deliver their message to those who would appreciate it, not to those incapable of appreciating something of value. Swine, or pigs, would be unable to appreciate pearls if the jewels were given to them.]
7. **Thirty pieces of silver/betrayed with a kiss:** "thirty pieces of silver" refers to a payment received for an act of treachery or betrayal; "betrayed with a kiss" refers to a supposed friend's treachery [In the Bible, Judas Iscariot was the disciple who agreed to betray Jesus to the authorities in exchange for payment. The thirty pieces of silver were the price of Judas' betrayal. The way Judas identified Jesus for the authorities was to approach Jesus and greet him with a kiss of identification.]
8. **Golden calf:** an idol or any object, especially a material object, that is worshipped even though it is not worthy of worship [In the Book of Exodus, Moses is leading his people out of Egypt to the Promised Land. While Moses is up on Mt. Sinai receiving the Ten Commandments from God, the people would melt down their jewelry and ornaments and make a calf out of the gold, and they began to worship this calf. Moses is angered when he returns to see the people worshipping an idol, and he breaks the stone tablets on which the Ten Commandments are written.]
9. **Loaves and fishes:** an almost miraculous abundance in the face of seeming scarcity [In several of the gospels, the story is told of Jesus preaching to a crowd of thousands. When the people became hungry, all the food to be found was five loaves and two fish. Jesus had these brought to him and blessed the food. His disciples distributed bread and fish to the entire crowd and there was still food left over after everyone had been fed.]
10. **Burning bush:** a medium through which the voice of absolute authority speaks [In the Book of Exodus, God speaks to Moses from a miraculous burning bush, a bush that burns but is not consumed. He commands Moses to confront Pharaoh and demand that Pharaoh free the Israelites, and he tells Moses to lead the people to the Promised Land.]
11. **Lot's wife/pillar of salt:** someone who unwisely chooses to look back once he or she has begun on a course of action or to someone who disobeys an explicit rule or command [According to the Book of Genesis, God destroyed the cities of Sodom and Gomorrah, but Lot, the nephew of Abraham, was given time to escape with his family before the destruction. God commanded Lot and his family not to look back as they fled. Lot's wife disobeyed and looked back, and she was immediately turned into a pillar of salt as punishment for her disobedience.]
12. **Juggernaut:** any force, especially a destructive force, that defies opposition [The name of a Hindu deity. His image is carried in an annual procession on a large cart. According to legend, devotees threw themselves in front of the cart and were crushed, believing this guaranteed immediate entry to Paradise.]
13. **Sacred Cow:** something that cannot be interfered with or harmed in any way [In Hinduism, cows are considered to be sacred; thus, cows are not to be harmed, and certainly not killed for food.]
14. **Armageddon:** any fierce confrontation resulting in mutual destruction [From the Book of Revelation – where a battle took place between the forces of good and evil, ending the world.]
15. **City on a hill:** a place that would be a shining example and model to others [From the Book of Matthew – The city on the hill in the Sermon on the Mount by Jesus described a "city that is set on a hill that cannot be hid...the light of the world."]
16. **Daniel in the lion's den:** anyone who is faced with problems and is encouraged to hold up in the face of adversity or persecution [Daniel was an Old Testament prophet who went through many trials and tribulations in Babylon. He had four visions of the end of the world, and these visions were the basis for the Book of Revelation.]

17. **Feet of clay:** the flaw of an otherwise strong and admirable person [From the Book of Daniel—Nebuchadnezzar dreamed of someone having a gold head, silver arms, iron legs, brass belly, and feet of clay. Daniel predicted the feet of clay were the weakness and foretold the fall of Nebuchadnezzar's empire.]
18. **Four horsemen of the apocalypse:** any four men of ill repute or those who will bring catastrophe or destruction [From the Book of Revelation—In his view of the end of the world, St. John saw four horses—white, red, black, and pale—representing the horrors of war: conquest, slaughter, famine, and death.]
19. **Good Samaritan:** anyone who does the right and courageous thing [Samaritans lived in the time of Jesus. They honored Moses as the only prophet, but were at odds with other Jews. Jesus told a parable of a Samaritan who did what he thought was right even under pressure from others.]
20. **Job:** a person who is extremely patient, even in the face of great losses [Job's family was killed, he was stricken with illness, and he was deprived of his worldly goods. He kept his faith during his suffering though he complained loud and long as the result of a wager between God and Satan. The story showed that God did not punish people because they sin, and that no one was immune from suffering, even the devout and innocent.]
21. **Lazarus:** any person who survives a disaster or rises again from a defeating situation [From the Book of John—Lazarus was brought back to life by Jesus.]
22. **Prodigal son:** any young man who is wayward and then forgiven by his family after he changes his ways and returns home [a parable from the Bible]
23. **Thomas (doubting Thomas):** anyone who doubts or questions things which others believe [Thomas was one of the twelve apostles. He would not believe Jesus was dead until he actually saw the wounds on Jesus after he reappeared.]
24. **Handwriting on the Wall:** an indication that doom or misfortune is coming [According to the Book of Daniel, Belshazzar, the King of Babylon, gave a great banquet, at which the guests praised the gods of silver, gold, bronze, wood, iron, and stone. Suddenly, a hand appeared and wrote mysterious words on the wall. Daniel translated the writing, saying it prophesied that Belshazzar's reign was over. That night, the king was killed.]
25. **Judas Iscariot:** a traitor [One of the twelve apostles, Judas betrayed Jesus by telling the authorities who Jesus was for a handful of silver coins.]

MYTHOLOGICAL ALLUSIONS (Assignment #5):

1. **Achilles:** Born of mortal and Zeus; mother dipped him in the river Styx to give him immortality but neglected to include the heel she held him by. Eventually, during the Trojan War, he was shot in that spot and killed. An Achilles heel is the one vulnerable spot in an otherwise invulnerable thing or person.
2. **Adonis:** a mortal youth who was loved by Aphrodite for his great beauty and later killed by a wild boar.
3. **Aphrodite/Venus:** a goddess of love and beauty (and spring and bloom).
4. **Apollo/Sol:** god of the sun; patron of healing; drove a chariot that pulled the sun, so it rose and crossed the sky each day
5. **Arachne:** a mortal who was a great weaver and very proud (arrogant) of her ability. She challenged Athena to a weaving contest and won. Athena was mad and turned her into a spider, so she could weave and spin non-stop. This is where arachnids get their name. She is a symbol of the problems arrogance can cause.
6. **Ares/Mars:** god of warfare
7. **Artemis/Diana:** sister of Apollo
8. **Athena/Minerva:** goddess of wisdom and warfare; was "born" full-grown and wearing armor, by springing from the head of Zeus. Her symbol is the owl. She was a great weaver and spinner; in charge of arts and crafts.
9. **Centaur:** a race of beings half man (front) and half horse, known for fighting and lustiness (but sometimes for great wisdom!).
10. **Cerberus:** a three-headed watchdog who guards the entrance to Hades
11. **Chaos:** Chaos is the void which came into being before anything else. But some say that Chaos was born from Mist, and that Mist was the first to exist. Others affirm that Chaos is not a void, but a rough unordered mass of things. It is also asserted that Chaos existed from the beginning, together with Nyx, Erebus (Darkness of the Underworld), and Tartarus, and consequently they consider Chaos to be as Nyx and Erebus; one of "the powers below the ground." It is told that during the war between the TITANS and the OLYMPIANS, the fight came to such a degree of intensity that an amazing heat seized Chaos.

12. **Cronos:** the wily, youngest and most terrible of the children of Uranus, whom he hated. He castrated his father and became ruler of the universe, but was later overthrown by his own son Zeus.
13. **Cyclops:** a race of one-eyed giants of whom the most famous is Polyphemus, the son of Poseidon; Polyphemus was blinded by Odysseus
14. **Daedalus and Icarus:** Daedalus was an inventor (the Great Artificer) who killed a rival in jealousy and fled to Crete (from Greece) where King Minos gave him refuge and put him to work. The king's wife lusted after a gorgeous bull which had been given to Minos by Poseidon. She had Daedalus make her a wooden cow in which she hid herself in order to mate with the bull; she conceived and bore the Minotaur from this union. The furious Minos ordered the Minotaur imprisoned in a labyrinth, which he commissioned Daedalus to design. Eventually, Daedalus and his son, Icarus, were also imprisoned in the Labyrinth, from which they escaped when Daedalus built wings from wax and feathers. On their escape to Crete, Daedalus warned Icarus not to fly too high because the sun would melt the wax; but Icarus ignored his father, his wings melted, and he fell to his watery death. Daedalus escaped safely.
15. **Dionysus/Bacchus:** god of wine and revelry. Wild feasts were held in his honor, which usually turned into drunken orgies, since that was what he was in charge of.
16. **Eros/Cupid:** god of love; often pictured as a winged boy.
17. **Europa:** a princess whom Zeus abducted and raped, when he was in the form of a bull.
18. **Hades/Pluto:** god of the underworld (sort of like hell but not so awful); the place itself is called Hades. Also, god of wealth (gold and silver came from the earth, which he ruled).
19. **Hephaestus/Vulcan:** god of fire; a blacksmith; the only god who is deformed—rejected son of Zeus and Hera.
20. **Hercules:** a son of Zeus and a mortal, he was famous for his strength and endurance; he performed twelve amazing feats of strength, called the "labors of Hercules."
21. **Mercury:** the messenger of the gods; wears shoes and hat with wings so he can fly very quickly. Known for living by his wits and cleverness.
22. **Midas:** was given his wish that everything that he touched would turn to gold but re-thought this idea when he killed his daughter by touching her and was near starvation because all the food he touched turned to gold. He eventually had the spell removed.
23. **Minotaur:** monster that is half-man and half-bull, wild and violent, demands sacrifices yearly of Greek youths and maidens.
24. **Narcissus and Echo:** Narcissus was a gorgeous male who admired himself enormously. Echo loved him, but he ignored her. Eventually, she was cursed with not being able to speak her own thoughts but only repeat what others said. This bothered Narcissus even more and he taunted her and she eventually wasted away so that just her voice, repeating others' words, remained. He became so enamored with himself that he got stuck peering into a pond, admiring his reflection, and became a flower that grows there.
25. **Nemesis:** the goddess of retributive justice or vengeance
26. **Odysseus/Ulysses:** (meaning "man of wrath" according to Homer, or more likely, from Greek "a guide; the one showing the way"), known as Ulysses in Roman mythology. Known for his guile and resourcefulness, he is the hero of Homer's *Odyssey*, and a major character in *The Iliad*.
27. **Oedipus:** abandoned at birth by his parents, who were trying to avoid a horrible prophecy that he would kill his father and marry his mother. Raised in Corinth, he eventually fled when he heard the same prophecy. In the road, he met and killed his father, solved the riddle of the Sphinx, and then went to Thebes and married his mother, with whom he had three children. When he learned the truth, he blinded himself and went into exile.
28. **Pan/Satyr:** Pan is one of the group of satyrs, which are half-man and half-goat, with goat's legs (including cloven hooves), a tail, pointy ears, and a wanton nature, who live in the woods. Pan is the god of forests, flocks, and shepherds. He usually plays pipes (a flute).
29. **Pandora:** the first mortal woman, sent to Earth as a punishment to man for Prometheus's theft of fire. She brought with her a box containing all human ills, which escaped into the world when she opened the box. Only hope was left at the bottom.
30. **Paris:** son of the last king of Troy (Priam), he is forced to award a golden apple (inscribed "the the fairest") to either Aphrodite, who promises him the love of the most beautiful woman in the world; Hera, who offers him great wealth; or Athena, who offers him wisdom. He chooses Aphrodite, who helps him steal Helen, who's married to Menelaus of Sparta. He takes her to Troy and the Greeks come after her which starts the Trojan War.

31. **Persephone and Demeter/Ceres:** Demeter is the goddess of agriculture and fruitfulness (fertility): guardian of marriage. Persephone is her daughter whom Hades marries and takes to Hades to live. Demeter is so unhappy without her beloved daughter that nothing can grow. A compromise is reached and Persephone spends six months on Earth with Demeter and six months below with Hades. This is the explanation for why we have seasons (winter is when Persephone is gone and Demeter is too unhappy to make things grow).
32. **Phoenix:** a bird that is immortal, but dies in a self-built pyre every 500 or 600 years and is then reborn from the ashes; a symbol of rebirth and/or immortality.
33. **Poseidon/Neptune:** god of the sea: often pictured with his 3-pronged scepter, the trident; has a son named Triton
34. **Prometheus:** a titan (preceded Zeus and the Olympian gods) who created man from clay. Later, he stole fire from the gods and gave it to man against the will of Zeus. As a punishment, he was chained to a rock and had his liver eaten out every day by an eagle. The liver grew back each night, only to be eaten out the next day. Eventually, he was released by Hercules.
35. **Psyche:** a great mortal beauty, whom Venus was very jealous of. Cupid loved her but didn't want her to know who he was, so he visited her only in the dark. She was curious and eventually snuck a light into the meeting place and shone it suddenly in his face. He was angry for a while but eventually forgave her and had her made immortal. She became the goddess of emotion.
36. **Sisyphus:** a wealthy man who cheated the living and, later, the gods. He was sentenced by Zeus to forever push a boulder up a hill, only to have it roll back down as soon as he got near the top.
37. **Styx (river):** the river that divides the land of the living from Hades, the land of the dead.
38. **Sirens:** a group of nymphs who lived on an island and lured men to their destruction with their sweet singing
39. **Titans:** the TITANS ruled the world after having dethroned their father Uranus, the first ruler of the universe.
40. **Zephyr:** the west wind, which is known for being warm and soft.
41. **Zeus:** king of the gods—Zeus was allotted the dominion of the sky, having waged war against Cronos and the TITANS. Zeus got the thunderbolt, his ultimate weapon, from the CYCLOPES, and an eagle brings back the thunderbolts which he has flung. Zeus is married to his sister, Hera.