

I.B. Language A: Literature Summer Reading Assignment

During the summer you will need to **carefully and thoroughly read and annotate** Paradise of the Blind by Duong Thu Huong.

Paradise of the Blind explores the lives of three women in post-war Vietnam struggling in an environment of political and economic oppression. The novel is a sophisticated work that requires careful attention. Please reference the PICSS-TTT on the reverse side.

Your assignment – a three to four page discussion on one or two aspects of the PICSS-TTT as it relates to the novel as a whole will be due the first day of your I.B. Literature class in the fall. (See the back of this paper for specific instructions on how to complete the writing assignments.)

We will spend approximately the first quarter on three different works: Paradise of the Blind by Duong Thu Huong, The Slave by Isaac Bashevis Singer, and the novella The Non-Existent Knight by Italo Calvino. The papers and assignments that result from them are important, so **be thorough in your reading**. A paper written on one of these three works is submitted to IB for grading and is worth 20% of your IB grade.

It would be wise to get a copy of both The Slave and The Non-Existent Knight when you obtain the other novel during the summer. You will begin reading these works soon after school begins in the fall.

If you have any concerns about the novels, you must contact us by email: Marene Stensrud (marene.stensrud@slcschools.org), Mindy Thompson (mindy.thompson@slcschools.org) or Tara John (tara.john@slcschools.org) before August 1st.

List of works for 2017-2018

The Slave – Singer

Macbeth – Shakespeare

Dubliners – Joyce

1984 –Orwell

Margaret Atwood Poetry

Paradise of the Blind – Huong

The Non-Existent Knight – Calvino

Things Fall Apart – Achebe

Artist of the Floating World–Ishiguro

Their Eyes Were Watching God- Hurston

Have a great summer. Enjoy your reading for a great senior year in I. B. English.

ASSIGNMENT: Use Paradise of the Blind to write a three to four page discussion on one or two aspects of the PICSS-TTT as it relates to the novel as a whole. Typed, Times New Roman, size 12 font, double-spaced, one-inch margins, MLA citation.

General Analysis Notes – PICSS –TTT **Remember to think holistically and not as a checklist!!!**

PICSS-TTT

Plot	What are some plot points that taught the reader about: character(s), setting, theme? What did that plot point teach? What was the inciting incident? What question(s) did the inciting incident pose? How was the inciting incident resolved?
Imagery	Pay attention to all five senses (taste, smell, hear, see, touch). Which pieces of imagery help to create the mood or tone of the text? Which pieces of imagery teach about: character(s), setting, culture, theme?
Character	What character traits or pieces of action are essential to the character(s)? Why did the author give that trait to that character? Why have the character(s) complete that action? What did the characterization teach about: the character, other characters, setting, culture, theme?
Setting	Keep the six general purposes of setting in mind: 1. To teach about a culture or way of life, 2. To create mood or atmosphere, 3. To make the work more believable, 4. To be the source of central conflict, 5. To symbolize a key concept of idea, 6. Or to reflect or contrast with other elements of the work such as the characters' feelings or theme. What does the setting teach the reader about: character(s), theme?
Style	Think about all of the literary techniques you know and have learned. What does the used technique teach about: character(s), setting, culture, mood, tone, plot, theme?
Tone/Mood	Tone is about the author's emotion, their attitude toward the novel's subject. How does the author feel about: character(s), setting, culture, theme, and audience? Why do they feel that way? What are they trying to communicate to the reader? MOOD is about how the reader is made to feel about: character(s), the author, themselves, setting, culture, theme. Why is the reader made to feel that way?
Title	Think about the title and any branching concepts that come from the title. What does the title teach about: the author, character(s), setting, culture, theme.
Theme	This is a lesson about life. What does the author want the reader to learn about life? [Full sentence(s) only] Does the author want the reader to change or do something as a response of reading the text and knowing the message?