



Summer Assignment 2020-21

IB English IV (Language A: Literature HL)

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Never Let Me Go

Kazuo Ishiguro (England, 1954--)

ISBN 9781400078776

PART 1: READING QUIZ - Due on Day 5 of class (Bring your book!)

“If you want to succeed, you gotta read!” (Nathan Rodriguez, class of 2018)

Read the novel. Find out what happens, and since you own the book, feel free to mark the text with your reactions or thoughts as you read. Annotating a text is, after all, a highly flexible and personal tool for study, but it’s important that you do not annotate to such an extent that it destroys your enjoyment of the novel as a reading experience. Detailed annotation is best done when you have a *purpose* for annotating (such as finding evidence to support a theory, or exploring the topic of a paper you want to write). The first time I read a novel for school, I tend to make light checkmarks with a pencil on those passages that appeal to me, seem significant, or seem to need further exploration later, such as:

- ✓ recurring ideas, themes or motifs
- ✓ physical description of a specific character or setting
- ✓ speech/actions that reveal character or provoke a reaction in me
- ✓ indications of the narrator’s tone of “voice” (attitude)
- ✓ key passages or quotations
- ✓ aesthetically pleasing diction or syntax

I don’t have a specific requirement for annotation, but keep in mind that you will have a reading quiz at the end of the first week, so use your best judgment.

PART 2: LITERARY ANALYSIS - 150 pts total - *Important Note:* The following Part 2 assignments are not due until the third week of school. However, now is the time to conduct research within the book and on the Internet, according to the tasks you choose. I will provide the supplies you need to create your panels.

A. Creative Component: Dodecahedrons - 50 points possible (25 per panel)

Choose any **TWO** of the literary “tasks” listed in the box on the next page. For each task, you will create one “side” or panel of what will become a 12-sided object (dodecahedron). That’s two sides per student. During class, your two panels will be joined with those of other students to create the finished object.

Your goal is to “say” and suggest as much as possible in a small space and to consider the novel as a whole even as you focus on one aspect. It will be helpful if you consider this project as a way to show what you already know about literature rather than seeing it as a “creative project” (and the lack of rigor that such a phrase sometimes implies). Notice that all terms underlined in the tasks below are conventions of prose fiction (elements found in all novels or short stories).

TASKS

1. Devise a way to **show the significance and impact** of one or more key settings in the novel.
2. Devise a way to **demonstrate the significance** of the narrator's point of view in the novel.
3. Using words and images, **demonstrate** an internal or external conflict in the novel.
4. Devise a way to **explore an important theme** in the novel.
5. Depict and **show the significance** of the author's diction in a key passage of the novel.
6. Depict and **show the significance** of the opening and/or closing passage/scene of the novel.
7. Devise a way to **show the development** of a key character in the novel.
8. Demonstrate the significance of a minor character or plot event in the novel.
9. Depict and represent the **significance of the relationship** between two or more characters.
10. Devise a way to depict the subgenre of dystopian fiction as it is represented by this author.
11. Devise a way to depict and show the significance of a key symbol or motif used throughout the novel.
12. Devise a way to **explore the meaning/significance** of the book's title as it relates to the novel as whole.

B. Written Component - 100 points possible

You will be asked to explain **in detail** the significance of **ONE** of your two panels in an 750-word essay submitted to Canvas. The essay should include pertinent descriptive information and may be as creative as you like. The goal of your essay is to demonstrate a thorough understanding of the literary element addressed by the task, how that element is manifested in your panel, and in the context of the novel as a whole.

EVALUATION CRITERIA:

Part B1: Creative Component. Up to 25 points per panel (50 total) for demonstrated literary understanding, care, and creativity. This piece is judged on its own merits and so should speak for itself, without reliance on the oral presentation.

Part B2: Oral Presentation Component. Up to 100 points are available for this **literary analysis**. Remarks should be concise, precise, and show knowledge and understanding of *the novel as a whole* as well as analysis and evaluation of the task addressed. Evidence of rigorous preparation should be apparent.

SUPPLIES FOR NEXT YEAR:

- **Composition Notebook:** You will work hard this year to develop a more sophisticated vocabulary of both general terms and those related to literature. Vocabulary activities will be recorded in your composition book, as will your class notes. This notebook will become a part of your Learner Portfolio.
- **Learner Portfolio (Paper):** You will need to add to your existing Paper Learner Portfolio, so if you need additional folders or notebooks, you might want to buy them now. In-class writing, homework assignments, and other written activities should be kept in your Learner Portfolio.
- **Black or Blue Pens & Pencils:** Written work that is turned in must be completed in black or blue pen.
- **Colored Pens or Pencils:** For color-marking and annotating, you may use a combination of **pen/pencil & highlighters** or simply use a variety of **colored pens/pencils**. Note that highlighting passages, by itself, is *not* annotating. The annotation is the comment you make *about* what you've highlighted, and for that you need a writing instrument, not a highlighter.
- I will supply loose-leaf paper when needed.

My promise to you: All assigned activities, written work, and class lectures are designed to broaden your understanding of literature in general and to enhance your performance on IB assessments in particular.