

Othello Summer Reading Assignment

IB HL Senior Fall 2017

Plays are written with the intention of being performed. Thus, upon your return from summer break, we will read aloud from selected excerpts of Othello.

To be well prepared for our study of Othello, we must first ALL read the play in its entirety. Reading a Shakespeare play by oneself is a major challenge. Please know that we will all share our insights as well as those things that we did not “get” in our group work. So, in preparation for our collaborative work on this play, we encourage you to read the play’s script with an eye on characters.

For our first week of class, please come prepared with the following:

~ Your copy of the play (you can get one very inexpensively through an on-line vendor or check one out from the library)

~ Your detailed notes about 3 characters:

1. A protagonist
2. An antagonist to your selected protagonist
3. A minor character whose contribution to the play is significant
4. At least 5 text based questions that demand a reader consider how literary devices bring story elements to life (you do not need to answer the questions)

Example: Iago constantly says, “I am honest, honest Iago.” How does repetition and the declarative “I” statement contribute to Iago’s character? Does this make him a static character on at least one level (regarding the repetitive descriptor)