

The Count of Monte Cristo by Alexandre Dumas

ADVANCED SENIOR ENGLISH: PERIOD 5

You will begin reading *The Count of Monte Cristo* by Alexandre Dumas, a copy of which you each paid for through class fees. The benefits of having your own copy include being able to highlight and write notes in the margins. You are being given your copies of the books now with the understanding that your homework throughout the majority of the 4th quarter will be to READ the novel cover to cover. We will begin our discussion of the novel early in the 4th quarter, and deadlines for class discussion will be only days apart. DO NOT PROCRASTINATE!

CHAPTER CHUNKS AND PAGE RANGES FOR READING DEADLINES WILL INCLUDE THE FOLLOWING:

Ch. 1-21, pgs. 1-161: Due _____ (Discuss ____ - ____)

Ch. 1-6: Innocence

Ch. 7-12: Evil does exist

Ch. 13-19: Goodness is empowered to overcome evil

Ch. 20-21: Revenge begins

Ch. 22-37, pgs. 161-274: Due _____ (Discuss ____ - ____)

Ch. 22-26: Gaining trust and revealing secrets

Ch. 27-37: Setup for revenge

Ch. 38-54, pgs. 274-395: Due _____ (Discuss ____ - ____)

Ch. 38-44: True love is tested

Ch. 45-47: Blackmail and repeat offenders

Ch. 48-54: Revenge unfolds

Ch. 55-73, pgs. 395-531: Due _____ (Discuss ____ - ____)

Ch. 55-62: Testing of character

Ch. 63-68: Epiphany

Ch. 69-73: Goodness prevails

IMPORTANT: Each of the above listed deadlines is a reading deadline that will also require students to be prepared with notes for class discussions. Be prepared to compose informal reflections and written responses (to be used as reading quizzes) and participate in Socratic seminars to thoroughly discuss the novel's characters, plot, themes, etc.

PREPARED TO DISCUSS AND WRITE ABOUT THE FOLLOWING TOPICS:

Characterization (many characters interact and inter-relate throughout the novel)

Revenge (a repetitive theme throughout the novel relating to many characters and plot points)

Conflict (various conflicts arise amongst different characters and inter-relate as the novel progresses)

Irony (verbal, situational and dramatic irony can be noted frequently throughout the novel)

Suspense (the book was initially published as a serial; suspense kept readers coming back for more)

Tone and Mood (author's attitude and reader's feelings are important for reading comprehension)

ASSESSMENT: A formal APA- style writing assignment (critical literary analysis regarding the psychology of revenge and the revenge paradox) and a critique of the film version will accompany our study of the novel. The writing assignment will be the final summative grade of the 4th quarter / school year.

Formal Writing Assignment: Due _____

Movie and Critique: _____