

**Western Senior High School**  
**English IV College Preparatory Summer Reading Assignment**

Students should purchase copies of the works listed on the reverse side and below, read them thoroughly, and complete the assignments required. Summer Reading Assignments can be found at [www.westernhighschool.org](http://www.westernhighschool.org). Go to the homepage, click "Academics," then click "English," and then click on your Summer Reading Assignment.

Summer Reading Titles:

***The Dew Breaker*** by Edwidge Danticat (ISBN 9781400034291)

***Chronicle of a Death Foretold*** by Gabriel Garcia Marquez (ISBN 9781400034710)

For each title, do the following:

**A. Annotate the Text:** As you read, think about the **characters** and the conflicts they undergo as well as the possible theme(s) that they help the author create. Use **colored pencils** (different colors for different characters) to **underline** significant words and/or phrases that would help you understand and remember information about how characters act, what they say, how they look, what they think, what other characters say about them, and what the author may say about them. Also note words and/or phrases, etc., that show how each author uses literary elements other than characterization--**setting, point of view (not in drama), conflict/plot structure, and stylistic elements** (imagery, figurative language, personification, irony, etc.) to create effects and ideas. Also, be sure to "carry on a conversation" with the text as you read by making **marginal notes** that clarify your marking. This will help you better understand each work and prepare for discussion and assessment. **DO NOT USE HIGHLIGHTERS AS THEY WILL BLEED FROM ONE PAGE TO ANOTHER. MARKED BOOKS ARE TO BE TURNED IN ON THE FIRST DAY OF THE 2010-2011 SCHOOL YEAR!!!**

**For the sake of standardization of annotating for class and for grading purposes, your book notes MUST follow this format:**

1. **Inside Front Cover:** Character list with small space for character summary and for page references for key scenes, moments of character development, etc.
2. **Inside Back Cover:** Themes, allusions, images, motifs, key scenes, plot line, epiphanies, etc. List and add page references and/or notes as you read.
3. **Bottom and Side Page Margins:** Interpretive notes, questions, and/or remarks that refer to meaning of the page. Markings or notes to tie in with information on the inside back cover.
4. **Top Margins:** Plot notes -- a quick few words or phrases which summarize what happens here (useful for quick location of passages in discussion and for writing assignments).

**Additional Marking and Note-taking (MANDATORY):**

- Underlining: complete during and after reading to help locate passages for discussion, essays, or questions.
- Brackets: complete during and after reading to highlight key quotations that are too long to underline easily.
- Use one color ink to do initial marking while reading; then go back with another color or colors to mark more thoroughly.
- At chapter or section ends, stop to index page numbers on your front cover list of character information and traits as well as on your back cover list of themes, images, allusions, etc.
- Underline as you read and write side margin notes as you finish a page or two.

**B. Link Essay:** Compose an extended essay responding to **ONE** of the following prompts. All essays must be **2-3 pages in length**. Essays must include a thesis and three clear controls. Each body paragraph must include specific support from **both works**. **ESSAYS MUST CLEARLY DEMONSTRATE THAT YOU HAVE READ AND THOUGHTFULLY ANALYZED BOTH WORKS. Do not merely answer the questions.** All essays are to be typed in MLA format (12 pt. font, Times New Roman, Double Spaced). **ESSAYS ARE TO BE TURNED IN ON THE FIRST DAY OF THE 2010-2011 SCHOOL YEAR. ESSAYS WILL LOSE 20 POINTS FOR EVERY DAY THEY ARE TURNED IN LATE!!!**

**Prompt A:** It has been said that living a life full of secrets can lead to regrets. In the novels, *Chronicle of a Death Foretold* by Gabriel Garcia Marquez and *The Dew Breaker* by Edwidge Danticat, Angela Vicario and the man known as the "dew breaker" bear the burden of their secrets throughout their lives. Compose a **2- 3 page typed essay** in which you describe how the past affects their present lives. How does the structure of each novel affect the keeping of secrets? How do the secret and the past affect characters' present lives and personal regrets? Do the characters make amends with the ones they have harmed in the past?

**Prompt B:** How do the actions of one person impact the life of another? Angela Vicario (*Chronicle of a Death Foretold*) and Anne (*The Dew Breaker*) decide to maintain secrecy in order to protect their own interests. Compose a **2- 3 page typed essay** that analyzes the effects of their betrayal and lies on their family? In what ways are Vicario twins' life changed by Angela's vow of secrecy? How is the relationship between Anne and her daughter, Ka, affected by Anne's choice to keep the "dew breaker" secret? Be sure to identify and discuss how the author uses literary elements to reveal the theme pertaining to secrecy.

**Prompt C:** Gabriel Garcia Marquez details the events surrounding the murder of Santiago Nasar in *Chronicle of a Death Foretold* using a reporter as the narrator. Contrastingly, Edwidge Danticat explores the use of multiple narrators in *The Dew Breaker*. Discuss the effectiveness of the point of view selected by the author and how the point of view affect the way(s) a reader feels about the characters in the novel in a **2-3 page typed essay**. Consider whether the inclusion of one or multiple points of view make the reader sympathize more with one character over another? Does it help illuminate the personality traits of one particular character?

**NOTE: STUDENTS WILL BE ASSESSED ON SUMMER READING TITLES ON THE FIRST DAY OF THE 2010-2011 SCHOOLYEAR and they should have the MLA Handbook with them.**