

## CP English 11 Assignments

(Page numbers refer to *The Language of Literature* textbook unless otherwise noted.)

### UNIT 6

#### PROSPERITY AND PROTEST: THE CONTEMPORARY PERIOD

*P.S. This unit's reading and assignments will be light,  
as your main focus remains your semester research project 😊*

#### Week 16

##### Voices from the Wars

*Twentieth century America is denoted by a seemingly endless stream of wars: World War I, World War II, the Korean War, the Vietnam War, Desert Storm. Some of these wars—World War II and the Korean War—were as few as eight years apart. No wonder then that the six decades from the 1940's to the 1990's are characterized by war and by social and political revolution. Whereas most Americans supported the United States' involvement in World War II, the American people were deeply divided over the Vietnam War. The Vietnam War, the longest war in American history, left a permanent scar on the American psyche. Some who survived took to writing about their haunting experiences and unresolved conflicts, while the public voice against the war that continued to gain strength and momentum was also recorded and has become a defining piece of the American voice.*

##### Objectives:

- Understand a short story
- Understand internal conflict
- Connect the story to personal experience
- Understand and appreciate poetry about the Vietnam War
- Understand the speaker in poetry
- Examine structure in poetry
- Understand and appreciate a protest poem
- Make inferences about meaning
- Avoid adverb qualifiers

- pp. 1072-4 Read “Historical Background: Remembering the Wars”
- p. 1105 Read “Comparing Literature,” “Build Background” and “Focus Your Reading.” Then, Read “Ambush” AND
- p. 1109 Write answers to “Thinking through the Literature” Questions 1-7
- Do [Adverb Qualifiers](#) Grammar Worksheet ([Answers](#))
- p. 1111 Read “Comparing Literature,” “Build Background” and “Focus Your Reading.” Then,
- p. 1112 Read “Camouflaging the Chimera”
- p. 1113 Write answers to “Thinking through the Literature” Questions 1-6
- p. 1114-5 Read “Deciding”
- p. 1116 Write answers to “Thinking through the Literature” Questions 1-5
- p. 1118 Read “Comparing Literature,” “Build Background” and “Focus Your Reading.” Then,
- p. 1119 Read “At the Justice Department, November 15, 1969”
- p. 1120 Write answers to “Thinking through the Literature” Questions 1-5

## Week 17

### Postwar Society: Integration and Disintegration

*Following World War II, vast and irreversible social and cultural changes swept across America. Returning African-American war veterans demanded the rights and freedoms they had fought to preserve. This sparked the Civil Rights Movement, which had been brewing for decades. As the segregated laws in American society were one by one struck down, more Americans were inspired to demand their rights. Thus, the dreams of integration for many were finally being realized. On the flip side, however, the demands of corporate America left others feeling dissatisfied. And as rebellion against tradition and authority became the norm, families began falling apart at alarming rates. We have now arrived at the America as most would characterize her today. Here is a look at some of the important writings that document the recent but significant changes. In this week's story, we see a microcosm of the integration and disintegration of postwar society. On the surface, the family appears to be functional, thriving, and happy, but underneath is torn by petty prejudices, jealousy, and guilt.*

#### Objectives:

- Understand and appreciate a short story
- Understand plot development
- Draw conclusions about characters
- Recognize active vs. passive voice

- pp. 1132-4 Read “Historical Background: Integration and Disintegration”
- pp. 1148-9 Read “Learning the Language of Literature: Tone in Contemporary Literature”
- p. 1157 Read “Connect to Your Life,” “Build Background.” and “Focus Your Reading.” Preview “Words to Know.” Then,  
 Read “The Writer in the Family”
- Do [Active Reading SkillBuilder](#) “Drawing Conclusions About Characters” ([Answers](#))
- p. 1166 Write answers to “Thinking through the Literature” Questions 1-7
- Do [Verbs: Active and Passive Voice](#) Grammar Worksheet ([Answers](#))

## Week 18

### Postwar Society: Integration and Disintegration, cont'd.

*For our final week of reading, the thread of integration and disintegration in postwar society (which we're still in, by the way) continues. The short story you will read explores a mother who tries to help her teenage son succeed in school but cannot prevent the disintegration of her family.*

#### Objectives:

- Understand and appreciate a short story
- Understand protagonist and antagonist
- Recognize important details

- p. 1168 Read “Connect to Your Life,” “Build Background.” and “Focus Your Reading.” Preview “Words to Know.” Then,
- Read “Teenage Wasteland”
- p. 1178 Write answers to “Thinking Through the Literature” Questions 1-7
- Do [Literary Analysis SkillBuilder](#) “Protagonist and Antagonist” ([Answers](#))