*A Midsummer Night’s Dream*

Post-Reading Essay

Please choose **one** of the following topics to write a formal, argumentative essay that includes an introduction with thesis statement, body paragraphs with topic sentences and transitions between paragraphs, proof from the text (direct quotations), and a concluding paragraph with strong last line. Your essay should be thoughtful and should use examples of support along with **at least three direct quotes** from *A Midsummer Night’s Dream*.

We will use the following steps of the writing process:

* Brainstorm topic, brainstorm arguments with quotations (then choose the best three) using Google Classroom document.
  + due: Thurs., 3/16
* Create a thesis statement and outline using Google classroom template.
  + due Friday, 3/17
* Work on rough draft.
  + Submitted to turnitin on Tuesday, 3/21 by 8:00 a.m.
* Peer & self-review (on turnitin).
  + on Tuesday, 3/21
* Revise and edit towards the final draft.

* Submit final draft (3-4 pages) to turnitin.com.
  + Due Thursday, 3/23 at 4:00 p.m.

**CHOOSE ONE of the topics below:**

1. Love is…
   1. Narrow down to a specific idea (see ideas below):
      * Love is unfair
      * Love is true
      * Love is blind
      * Everyone needs love
   2. Need at least 3 examples/quotes
2. There are many different TYPES of love in the play. (List/explain at least 3)
   1. Ex: forced love, romantic love, parental love, friendship love
3. The characters in the play will do anything for love. (List/explain at least 3)
4. The characters are VICTIMS to love.
   1. Love is identified as a concrete object here, who bullies.
      * Give at least 3 examples
5. Argue FOR or AGAINST Lysander’s quotation, “The course of true love never did run smooth”.
   1. Give at least 3 arguments to support your statement.
6. Oberon is the root behind all of the problems in the play. (Give at least 3 reasons why.)
7. Puck is the root behind all of the problems in the play. (Give at least 3 reasons why.)
8. \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ (character) is…
   1. CONSIDER BOLD STATEMENTS...don’t bore us with plain ones)
   2. Give at least 3 characteristics of a character and explain how/why they are true.
      * Ex: Helena puts all women to shame
        1. She is desperate
        2. She is insecure
        3. She is a liar
      * Ex: Theseus is a great ruler.
9. Comment on the use of the word “dream” in the play.
   1. Give at least 3 uses and describe their significance.
      * Ex: the title, character’s thoughts/lines
10. Comment on Shakespeare’s use of magic in the play
    1. Give at least 3 uses and describe their significance.
       * Ex: Shakespeare uses magic to create conflict, establish an atmosphere, etc.
11. There is confusion of the difference between what’s a dream and what’s reality in the play
    1. Think of the character’s perspective.
    2. Give at least 2 examples of dream and at least 2 examples of reality.
12. Explain the foolishness of the characters in the play.
    1. Puck states, “Lord, what fools these mortals be.”
    2. The lovers and fairies are foolish.
    3. Give at least 3 examples of foolishness.
13. Compare the movie version to the play ( the 1999 version directed by Michael Hoffman)
    1. State at least 3 major changes/differences and determine which was better.
14. Outline the passion of characters…
    1. For love, for revenge, etc.
    2. Either choose 3 characters OR identify 3 passionate things about 1 character