**Summer Reading for American Literature**

**2019-2020 school year**

**Read *Catch 22* by Joseph Heller. You are responsible for getting the book on your own so that you can read it as best suits your needs. Electronic or paper versions are both acceptable. Then, on a separate sheet of paper, complete the following exercises.**

**Part 1: Challenging, Analytical Questions**

Write five questions about your book by replacing the *underlined italic* words below with specific elements and episodes from your novel. Your questions should require in-depth analysis and critical thinking, and can be things for which you truly do not have an answer. (You do not need to answer the questions, yet, but will challenge others to do so.) *The questions should be entirely of your creation, and absolutely must not come from Spark Notes or any other study guide!*

1. What is the author’s message to readers about *an important topic you see addressed* in *a specific episode.*
2. What was the author’s purpose in including *peripheral or obscure character/event/element* in *a specific episode*?Analyze and explain its propose in the novel as a whole.
3. How does the author’s use of *specific literary technique or element of narrative voice* effect the telling and the message of the story?
4. What is the significance of *a specific motif, symbol, extended metaphor or other figurative feature* to the novel as a whole?
5. What are readers supposed to understand abut *a principal character*  from *some significant and specific action s/he takes?*

**Power lines**

Choose **three** Power Lines from your novel: lines that are powerful in and of themselves, and meaningful to the author’s message as a whole. Choose one from the first third, one from the middle third, and one from the last third. Then, give the a analysis for each.

*The quotes should be entirely of your choosing, and absolutely must not come from Spark Notes or any other study guide!*

For each Power Line, you should:

* Give the excerpt with proper citation (author and page)
* 1-2 Sentence descriptive analysis of why you find it powerful in itself
* 3-5 Sentence analysis of how it is meaningful to the overall plot, structure, theme, and/or author’s purpose.

**Test Preparation**

After settling in to the school routine, there will be an exam.

To study, you should:

* Research and be familiar with the author and basic biographical information
* Be familiar with principal characters and basic plotline.
* Understand overall theme, motifs and author’s purpose.