



Veritas Classical Schools
7th and 8th Grade Humanities Summer Assignments August 2020
DUE: August 20, 2020

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Welcome to a new year at Veritas! Please let me know if you have any questions about your summer assignment, and I look forward to seeing you on Thursday, August 20nd.

In literature we will be starting our studies with writing from “The New Land” period. It consisted of a diverse group that would go on to establish the foundations of the future of American literature:

1. The Native Americans with their oral traditions
2. The Puritans with their focus on sin and salvation

While most of early American literature has been lost, we do have some interesting writings that have survived.

Carefully read each selection and then respond in complete sentences for your critical thinking questions. All answers need to be typed in Times New Roman 12 font, double spaced. Don't forget your name! A great way to start is something like this:

My Name
Humanities Summer Assignment
Due: August 20, 2020

Assignment 1

- 1a.
- 1b.

Repeat for Assignment 2

Assignment 1: Native American

1. Read “Spring Song” by the Chippewa tribe (<https://www.poetryfoundation.org/poems-and-poets/poems/detail/51553>).
 - a. “Spring Song” is an example of a couplet and a free verse. Please write a simple definition of these literary terms
 - b. In two-three sentences, what image do you “see” when you read this brief poem?

Assignment 2: Puritan Writings

1. Read the following excerpt from William Bradford's "Of Plymouth Plantation"

http://www.whatsoproudlywehail.org/wp-content/uploads/2012/11/Bradford_Excerpts-from-Of-Plymouth-Plantation.pdf

- a. The Pilgrims encountered many conflicts on their travels to the New Land. In your reading, explain ONE external conflict that happened. How was this conflict resolved?
- b. To whom does Bradford give credit for their safe landing and provision? Find two quotes to support your response.

2. Read "Upon the Burning of Our House, July 10, 1666" by Anne Bradstreet

(<https://www.poetryfoundation.org/poems-and-poets/poems/detail/43707>).

- a. Where does Bradstreet find her strength to face the loss of her home? In your response, be sure to include one line from the poem to support your answer.
- b. Define metaphor. At the end of the poem, Bradstreet uses an extended metaphor to draw a parallel between two homes. What is the house at the **end** of the poem? Who is its architect? How is this house better than the one she lost?
- c. Read Job 1 :20-21 and Matthew 6:19-21. What common idea can you draw between the Bible verses and Bradstreet's perspective about treasures? How can you apply these truths to your own life?

3. Please print a copy of "Upon the Burning of Our House" by Anne Bradstreet and bring your 101 Great American Poems book the first week of class.

Student: Please read and sign. I have completed all of the assignments on this assignment sheet.

Student signature:

Parents: Please read and sign. I have looked over my student's work and it is complete to my satisfaction. Parent

signature: _____