English 11AP – **Expert Reader Assignment**

preparation

Look through the notes that you took on your topic as you read *The Great Gatsby.* Take another look through the book and see if there’s anything you missed.

Think about what you found. How does this topic connect to a central idea in the book? Which moments in the book are most crucial to understanding the role of this topic in the book?

task

Your job is to teach the class about your topic. Prepare a brief presentation in which you discuss your topic, consider the questions listed above, and point us to important moments in the text that relate to your topic by reading us some relevant quotations from the book and explaining to us how they connect to the topic.

nuts and bolts

Your presentation should be 2-4 minutes long and can include some discussion questions. This is a low-tech assignment; you should not prepare a power point or a handout. Please come prepared with your notes and a carefully constructed plan for teaching us about this topic. You should write a few key points and quotations on the board before you start.

objective

If the students in the class come away from your presentation with a more in depth understanding of the topic and of the book as a whole, your presentation was a success. Your goal is to teach us something new about your topic!

**Analytical Essay**

Write an essay about the one of the topics that we focused on as we read *The Great Gatsby*. Start with a short general introduction to the book and then go straight to your topic. Your opening paragraph should introduce both the book and the topic. Organize the body paragraphs however makes the most sense to you, but the central questions for the essay are: What did you notice, what did you learn about what you noticed, and how do these observations connect to a central idea in the book?

nuts and bolts

* your essay should be 3-4 pages
* your reader is someone who has not read the book, but your job is not to tell the reader every detail in the book; rather, you are teaching the reader something interesting and new about the book and explaining what needs to be explained to discuss your topic
* use quotations strategically – avoid the “I’m using a quotation because I need to use a quotations” sensation
* you may use your quiz from Monday
* you will have Thursday and Friday in class to write
* due Tuesday, May 30 at 10PM on turnitin.com – 100 points
* grading criteria includes: organization, depth and rigor of analysis, originality of ideas, careful reading of the book, and grammar/mechanics