Email Responses - 30%

Every class period we have readings, you will be expected to participate in an email discussion. You should also give a response after each day that we watch a video. Some things to keep in mind:

- Your response must be at least 4 to 5 sentences
- You should vary what type of responses you give
- Your response will only be counted if you send it before class (except for videos)
- Your response will not be counted if you do not follow directions

Your grade will be determined by the number of your responses: 18 to 23 = A, 14 to 17 = B, 11 to 13 = C, 8 to 10 = D, 7 or below = F.

Types of responses:

Quotation

Choose a quotation from the work that you think is important. Give the page number and explain why the quotation is important. I may use some of your choices on the midterm and final.

Theme/Issue

In class we discussed some of the themes and issues that we will be discussing throughout the semester. Choose a theme or issue and explain how a work addresses it.

Personal Response

Part of what draws us to literature is how we feel a work speaks to our lives. A personal response should explain how you feel a piece reflects something you have experienced. This is not meant to be an explanation of what you think the work means. Choose a quotation or a theme to approach that question.

Question

Even after carefully reading a work, you may have some questions. Keep in mind that you must write 4 or 5 sentences. Your question should clearly show that you have struggled with understanding the work.

Compare and Contrast

You should always think about how the works we are reading are similar to one another in style, content, and the issues they are dealing with. Choose a work we are reading and compare and contrast it with another work we have read this semester.

Cultural/Political

In class we will often discuss how the works we read reflect on the world around us. Just because something was written 200 years ago does not mean that it can not tell us about today. Explain how a work addresses an issue that we are facing.

Peer Response

You are responsible for reading the responses of your peers. You may respond to their responses by disagreeing, furthering a point, or attempting to answer a question.

Aesthetics

We often define literature as literature because of the way it is written. Other writers have written about similar things, but not in such a powerful way. Choose a quotation and explain why you are drawn to the way it was written.