

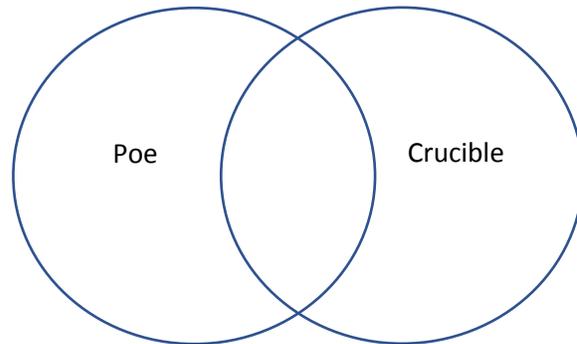
With a partner, choose 2 prompts from each category to “unpack”. For each choice, do the following:

- A. Color Mark the prompt for:
 - a. The demands of the prompt
 - b. The question asked
 - c. Key descriptors
- B. Create a Venn diagram for the comparison of the two+ works you are exploring.
- C. Sketch a thesis statement.

For Example:

A. Authors are aware of the power of their works to **shock the reader**. Referring to at least two works, **explore some of the methods** they have employed to do this.

B.



C. Both Edgar Allan Poe and Arthur Miller use rhetorical questions to evoke a sense of astonishment to question the status quo of a theocratic society.

Drama:

Henrik Ibsen’s *A Doll’s House* and Arthur Miller’s *The Crucible*

1. In everyday usage the word “theatrical” often means extravagant or is used to describe behavior that exhibits exaggerated emotions. To what extent, and in what ways, do the plays you have studied exemplify this definition of “theatrical”?
2. “Drama is created by placing ordinary people in situations of crisis.” Explore some of the methods used to create drama in this way in the plays we have studied.
3. “Without contraries there is no progression.” Consider the role of opposition and/or contradiction in the plays we have studied.
4. With reference to [the play] you have studied, discuss the significance of dialogue in the playwright’s presentation and construction of character.
5. “The key to the dramatic life of any play is the fact that action takes place in particular, limited spaces.” How important is the sense of spatial confinement to the drama in the plays we have studied?
6. “In dramatic construction there must be variation of pace and rhythm, monotony of any kind being certain to induce boredom.” ... in light of this statement, show how variation of pace and rhythm have been used to attract or heighten the interest of the audience.

Prose: The Novel and Short Story:

The Scarlet Letter by Nathaniel Hawthorne

The Adventures of Huckleberry Finn by Mark Twain

“The Yellow Wallpaper” by Charlotte Perkins Gilman

“The Story of an Hour” by Kate Chopin

Edgar Allan Poe

The Great Gatsby by F. Scott Fitzgerald

A Good Man is Hard to Find and other short stories by Flannery O’Connor

The Sorrow of War by Bao Ninh

The Things They Carried by Timothy O’Brien

1. “My own preference is for a story that is a kaleidoscopic, with a number of different voices rather than one character speaking for the entire novel or short story.” Focusing on single and/or multiple voices, discuss the effects of this viewpoint in any novel/short story studied this year.
2. “The characters of a novel can only be individualized if they are set in a background of particularized time and place.” How important is the setting of a particular time and/or place to the development of the characters?...
3. In novels and short stories, characters tend to have both an “inner life” and a “public life.” Both of these may be part of the fiction, if not equally so in every work. Choose examples from your reading to discuss how and how effectively these two aspects of human existence are presented.
4. A story has to be told by somebody. Compare in detail your impressions of the “storytellers” in at least two works we have studied. Was the “storyteller” the same as the writer (implicitly or explicitly) or not? How does this question influence your reading?
5. Discuss the idea of morality as a driving force in at least two characters’ actions you have studied.
6. Though plot may be said, at its simplest level, to be a sequence of events, what truly distinguishes prose fiction is the use of narrative disruption: impediment, detour, diversion, or digression. In at least two works we have studied, how have the writers created narrative disruption and to what effect?
7. “Successful characterization involves taking the reader to the heart, the inner core, of an imagined person.” In at least two works we have studied, discuss by what means and with what degree of success has the author(s) tried to “take you to the hearts” of their characters.