

## **AP Literature Panel Presentation**

*For this assignment you will form a small group which will plan and execute a panel discussion/presentation on one of the topics below.*

### **Procedures:**

#### *Independently:*

- 1. Research any necessary and relevant information; consider literary criticism and analysis from reliable sources. Track your sources-you will need to cite them according to MLA format.*
- 2. Develop and compose your written argument in response to your assigned topic. Your paper must be 3-5 pages long, in MLA format, grounded in research, supported with textual references. You will submit your written report on the day of your panel presentation.*

#### *As a Group:*

- 1. Share and discuss your findings/arguments. You will need to collaborate effectively and contribute equally.*
- 2. Plan your presentation - 15-20 minutes total running time.*
- 3. Create a brief and effective slide presentation as a visual tool for your discussion.*
- 4. Present your argument to the class.*

1. When *Brave New World* was first published in 1932, the world was plunged in depression, fascism was on the rise in Western Europe, and Marxism appealed to increasing numbers of intellectuals in Europe and America. Discuss the novel in the context of its historical moment. Which parts transcend its time and place?
2. One of the most striking aspects of Huxley's *Utopia* is the way our sexual mores and assumptions have been reversed: monogamy is bad, passion is deviation, casual, meaningless sex is the socially approved norm. What is Huxley getting at here? Is there any expression of human sexuality that he finds acceptable? Is sex/promiscuity at the heart of the "problem" in his view of human nature?
3. Discuss the novel as a satire and Huxley's use of irony/satire within the context of the work.
4. Discuss the philosophy at the core of this novel. Is it a Christian philosophy? Socialist? Anarchist?
5. As dehumanizing and oppressive as the *Brave New World Utopia* is, the alternative in the "savage reserve" is in many ways worse - dirty, violent, unhealthy, cruel, uncomfortable. What point is Huxley making about human nature and the nature of human communities? Is his vision totally negative - or does the novel hold out some shred of hope, some alternative mode that fosters both freedom and community?
6. Discuss the portrayal/role of women in the context of the novel.
7. Discuss the power of language (influence on thought and behavior) and propaganda in the context of the novel.