

Summer Reading- AP Literature and Composition-
The Poisonwood Bible

Reading Guide

As you read the novel, color-code the chapters according to the perspective of the character. For example, you may choose to use orange Post-it note tabs to mark Orleanna's chapters. While reading her chapters, mark the passages that support what kind of a person she is. At the end of her chapters, make a note or two regarding what you learn about her character in the chapter. You might choose to use red tabs for Rachel's chapters, then proceed as you do with Orleanna's. For Leah's chapters, you might choose lime green tabs, etc., etc. Follow this procedure with all the characters (they each have multiple chapters). This will help you to make quick reference to different perspectives. As characterization is very important, pay close attention to how Kingsolver develops her characters to reveal theme.

Themes

Many themes are revealed during the course of this novel. Be familiar with them and how they are developed through characterization and setting.

Setting

Don't miss this one.

Seminar

We will seminar over this novel on the first block day that we meet class during the second week of school (it will probably be Tuesday, August 24, or Wednesday, August 25). To prepare for seminar, bring five discussion questions over the novel to class (typed in MLA format with discussion points following each question).