

IB Diploma English 1

Spring Semester 2008 Cumulative Final Review

Final Exam Check List—*Come to your final exam with the following:*

- Your favorite pen or pencil
- Your updated Source Book (to use on your final, and then to turn in)
- 3 sheets of binder paper
- Your Borges Packet (10 points)
- Your typed Class Evaluation (25 points)
- Your typed *Cuckoo's Documentary* Self-Reflection (20 Points)
- Any miscellaneous handouts, articles, DVD's, books, etc. that belong to me or to the Mira Loma Library of Babel.

Final Exam Format:

1. *Student's Choice Essay (30 points):* A short essay where you get a broad topic, and get to choose **two different works** out of the four studied this semester to compare (similar to next years IB Exam).
2. *Short Answers (50 points):* Specific questions on the content below that you will need to answer efficiently in one paragraph. These questions could pertain to the main works studied, but could also relate to important criticism, as well as other poets or authors that we have studied in conjunction with our primary works.
3. *Text Identification and Commentary (50 points):* Identify excerpts by the author, title, and narrator or speaker, and the briefly comment on the significance of the excerpt.

1. Maya Angelou--*I Know Why the Caged Bird Sings*

- Paul Laurence Dunbar's "Sympathy"
- Angelou's "I Know Why the Caged Bird Sings"
- Nonfiction film
 - Direct Cinema (Cinema Veritae)
 - Construction of Reality

3. T.S. Eliot & Sylvia Plath--Assigned Poems and Criticism

- "Tradition and the Individual Talent"
- Plath's Biography
- *Jandek on Corwood*

4. Ken Kesey—*One Flew Over the Cuckoo's Nest*

- Cultural & Historical Setting of Novel (Empowerment Ideas, etc.)
- "What do you think of my Buddha" from Tom Wolfe's *The Electric Kool-Aid Acid Test*

5. J.L. Borges--Assigned Short Stories

- "When Fiction Lives in Fiction"
- "Borges y Yo"
- John Barth's "The Literature of Exhaustion"

Periods, Movements and Genres

- Modernism
- Confessional Poetry
- Postmodernism
- Fantasy & Magical Realism
- The Autobiography / Memoir
- The 60's (Civil Rights, FSM)
- Translated World Literature

Cuckoo's Documentary Self-Reflection (20 Points-Due on Final)

Perhaps overly-inspired by our review and discussions about the “risk-taking” attribute of the IB Learner Profile, I thought that an interesting way to understand and expand upon Kesey’s ideas that he develops through the microcosm in his novel would be to investigate the microcosm that we have consistently experienced for the last 12 years: the education system. And I have no regrets about trying it out, even if it was not a complete success. In fact, I wonder if the “risk-taking” attribute is more important for teachers than it is for students, since the constant fear among our lot is this idea of becoming complacent, redundant, and—dare I say it—“machine-like.” This, in my opinion, leads to ineffectiveness.

Please reflect in a typed response (no longer than two pages--who cares if it is MLA formatted) on my brainchild of a *Cuckoo's Nest Documentary* that never grew to complete fruition. I am already well aware of some of the setbacks: IB testing, science competitions, lack of project clarity, end-of-the-year lethargy, life, etc., but I would also like your personal take on the project, your specific role and contributions, and ideas for how to improve upon this, should I attempt to do something similar with my little Norwegians.

Please be sure to include the following in your response:

- What you contributed, or what you were going to contribute, and how this relates to the study of Kesey’s novel *One Flew Over the Cuckoo’s Nest*.
 - Example: if you were in charge of music, what songs did you have in mind, and why?
 - Another example: if you were working on artistic direction, what visual concepts did you want to include in the documentary, and why?
 - This also includes planning: Discussion Board Posts, conversations with group members, research, etc.
- What would you do differently if you had a chance to do this project again?
- How could this project be improved upon?