

## ENG4U: *The Fountainhead*

### Unit 2 Assignments

Our study of Ayn Rand's *The Fountainhead* is going to be directed by you. One of our goals over the next few weeks is to think about how we read and arrive at the particular conclusions we do. To this end, you will keep reading notes, write reflective blog posts, prepare for and participate in daily discussion groups, and ultimately construct a narrative of your own reading experience.

Unit Marks Allocation	
Reflective Blogging	20
Literature Circle Portfolio	50
Reading Narrative	50
Unit Test	30
<b>Total Marks Available</b>	<b>150</b>

#### --- Reading Notes ---

For you to do well in all of the unit assignments, you should find a way to track your thoughts, questions, and opinions about *The Fountainhead* while you are reading. **You will not be marked on your notes;** you will be evaluated on the products based on your notes.

There are a several obvious and convenient ways for you to keep reading notes. Choose a method that works for you.

#### (1) Blogging

Blog frequently about your reading – either daily or at the end of every chapter. The advantage of this medium is that it allows you to easily self-reference: you can link back to your earlier ideas and show how they have changed through your reading.

or

#### (2) A reading journal

Any time you hit a 'snag', ask yourself a question, make a connection, or make a prediction about the novel, write it down in point form with the page number. You may find it easiest if you set up a chart as follows:

PAGE (AND QUOTATION)	MY COMMENTS, QUESTIONS, OPINIONS, PREDICTIONS

or

#### (3) Sticky Notes

Keep a stack of sticky notes handy while you're reading. Any time you hit a 'snag', ask yourself a question, make a connection, or make a prediction about the novel, jot it down on a sticky note and attach it to the text itself.

#### 1 Reflective Blogging (4 posts, 6 comments)

#### 20

The following posts are the **minimum** number of posts you should complete during the unit.

- Post 1, due Tue. Feb. 17: Anticipate the reading experience – make predictions, outline your expectations.
- Post 2, due Tue. Feb. 24: Reflect on your reading to date.
- Post 3, due Tue. Mar. 3: Reflect on your reading to date
- Post 4, due Tue. Mar. 10): Write a brief review of the novel, sharing your opinion of it.

**2 Literature Circle Portfolio – due Wed. Mar. 11****50**

You will be assigned to a discussion group, known as a Literature Circle, for the duration of this unit. Your circle will meet daily to discuss the previous evening's reading, and each of you will come to class prepared to discuss the novel from a particular standpoint, or role. These roles include:

- Facilitator
- Summarizer
- Researcher
- Illustrator
- Connector
- Curator (for groups of six only)

Your Literature Circle Portfolio is your record of all of your individual contributions to the discussion. It should include:

- Discussion log
- Group observation sheets
- A copy of everyone's daily written contributions, organized either by role or by discussion date. (For example, you could collect all of the Facilitators' notes together, then all of the Storytellers', and so on. Alternatively, you could collect everyone's notes for Day 1, then Day 2, etc.)

Elect someone to keep your Literature Circle Portfolio complete and organized. At the end of each day's discussion, this person should collect everyone's notes and include them in the Portfolio. This person should also ensure that the Discussion Log is current and in the front of your Portfolio – I will be checking your log frequently.

On Wednesday, March 11<sup>th</sup>, you will hand in your complete and organized Literature Circle Portfolio. As a group, you will meet with me for a conference about your Portfolio, your group communication skills, and what level you believe your group performed at.

**3 Reading Narrative – due Thu. Mar. 12****50**

Use your own reading notes to develop a 500 – 800 word narrative of your reading experience. The following questions may help you get started. Don't feel that you need to answer each question; simply use ones that interest you as a starting point for your narrative:

- What predictions did you make, and how did you revise them as you read through the novel?
- What questions did you encounter through your reading? Were they answered or not, and if so, how?
- What questions remain for you at the end of your reading experience?
- What did you learn through this?
- What did you particularly enjoy and/or dislike about your reading?
- What connections did you make between the novel and your own experience, other texts you've read, and/or the world?

## Literature Circles

### Schedule

The calendar below outlines which sections of *The Fountainhead* will be discussed each day. You must come to class having already read the pages and completed your preparation for the discussion.

#### February / March

Monday		Tuesday		Wednesday		Thursday		Friday	
	Family Day	17		18	1:1-1:7 (p 1-94)	19	1:8-1:11 (p 94-138)	20	1:12-1:15 (p 138-200)
23	2:1-2:4 (p 200-242)	24	2:5-2:8 (p 242-274)	25	2:9-2:10 (p 274-320)	26	2:11-2:13 (p 320-368)	27	2:14-3:1 (p 368-418)
2	3:2-3:5 (p 418-466)	3	3:6-3:9 (p 466-500)	4	4:1-4:5 (p 500-546)	5	4:6-4:8 (p 546-583)	6	4:9-4:13 (p 583-630)
9	4:14-4:17 (p 630-674)	10	4:18-4:20 (p 674-694)	11	Lit Circle Portfolio Conferences	12			March Break

### Roles

There are five or six different roles that are to be a part of your daily discussions.

- All five (or six) roles must be represented in each day's discussion. (For example, you cannot have more than one Summarizer for any day's discussion.)
- Each person must assume each role at least twice throughout the unit.
- You must complete your reading and your related role assignment **before** coming to class for the discussion.
- You must ensure that the written preparation related to your role is included in your group's Literature Circle Portfolio before leaving class that day.

### Facilitator

As facilitator, your role is to ensure that the day's discussion flows. Before coming to class, prepare three interesting discussion questions. Begin the day's discussion by inviting each person to share his or her prepared work, beginning with the Summarizer. Then use your prepared questions to lead a discussion of the reading. Ensure that you record both your questions and highlights of the group's discussion. Include your notes in the Literature Circle Portfolio.

### Summarizer

As summarizer, you should summarize the plot from the previous day's reading. Aim for a 5-10 sentence summary. Once you've read your summary to your circle, invite feedback, and then ensure that your written summary is included in your Literature Circle Portfolio.

### Researcher

Your job is to dig up some background information on any topic related to your book. This is NOT a formal research report. The idea is to find bits of information or material that will help your group better understand the book. Investigate something that really interests you – something that struck you as puzzling or curious while you were reading. Share your research with your group and invite feedback. Ensure that your research is included in your Literature Circle Portfolio.

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

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### **Illustrator**

Create or find a visual representation of the previous day's reading. Share it with your group and explain your choice. Invite feedback from your group and ensure that your visual representation is included in your Literature Circle Portfolio.

### **Connector**

Make at least three connections from the previous day's reading. Your connections could be:

- between the text and another text you've read / seen
- between the text and personal experience
- between the text and the world

Share your connections and invite feedback from your group. Ensure that your connections are included in your Literature Circle Portfolio.

### **Curator** (for groups of six only)

Your role is to find three interesting quotations from the previous day's reading. Share them with your group and explain why you think they are significant. Invite feedback from your group and ensure that your quotations are included in your Literature Circle Portfolio.