

**AP LIT & COMP (2018 – 2019)****Summer Assignment Due Date: \*Monday, August 20, 2018**

*\*You will have additional homework assignments the first week of school; avoid lengthy procrastination.  
<https://sites.google.com/a/mypolkschools.net/maurer-ap/>*

**PART I: READING (Fiction & Reference): 2 parts**

1. **THE LORDS OF DISCIPLINE** (Pat Conroy): You must obtain a **clean (non-annotated) print copy** of this novel (**no e-readers**). **The only annotations** (See required ones under Part II below) **in the book should be your own. You may use any edition as long as it is without prior annotations.** If purchasing this book is a challenge for you at this time, **please notify me before the last day of school.**

The novel allows students to become familiar with an author’s use of language to develop tone and meaning, the road map of literary analysis. **Be prepared for graphic language and some sexual explicitness** that corresponds to the characters and the setting. **This high-interest novel is a continual favorite of students.**

2. **Download, print, and highlight essential research information that is relevant to the novel** (Do not write a summary—just print and highlight on your research articles):

- a. any online, reputable, comprehensive biography of **Pat Conroy**
- b. any online, reputable, comprehensive article on the **Citadel**, situated in Charleston, S. Carolina

**PART II: WRITING (EXPLORING PSYCHOLOGICAL “GHOSTS” and “VAMPIRES”)**

**Context:** “Ghosts” **haunt our literary characters** and ourselves. Sometimes our “ghosts,” or hauntings, take up residence in our minds as **short-term tenants**. Some examples of **symbolic psychological ghosts** are guilt, shame, and inferiority (generally emerging from our past), which can sometimes be banished from our psyches through positive action. When those “ghosts” are not confronted and eventually banished, however, they consume us and dictate our lives, influencing the destruction of self or others. In these cases, these psychological **“ghosts” morph into “vampires” or “demons,”** because they take up **permanent residence** in us in the form of a “landlord” rather than a “short-term tenant.” They consume our well-being.

According to Thomas C. Foster,

Ghosts and vampires [from literature] are never only about ghosts and vampires. . . . [they take the form of] exploitation in its many forms. Using other people to get what we want. Denying someone else’s right to live in the face of our overwhelming demands. Placing our desires, particularly our uglier ones, above the needs of another. That’s pretty much what the vampire does, after all. He wakes up . . . and says something like, ‘In order to remain undead, I must steal the life force of someone whose fate matters less to me than my own’ (Chapter 3, *How to Read Literature Like a Professor*).

**Prompt:** From **THE LORDS OF DISCIPLINE**, write a **comparison/contrast essay** where you analyze the effect of one specific “psychological” ghost on any two characters listed below (or on the back of this document). The psychological “ghosts” that haunt each of these characters may be identical or simply closely related, but they will obviously manifest themselves in different ways in each of the characters. Do not identify two “ghosts” that don’t relate to one another at all.

- **Will McLean**
- **Dante Pignetti**
- **Abigail St. Croix**
- **Tradd St. Croix**
- **Commerce St. Croix**

- **General Bentley Durrell**
- **“Bucky” Poteete**
- **Annie-Kate Gervais**
- **Mrs. Gervais**

***Directions for Completing Part II***

**1. Annotate** the passages throughout the novel as evidence of this ghost as it relates to your characters (See Part 1).

**2.** Write (**type**) a multi-paragraph analysis of how the specific “ghost” in each of the two characters is **either banished or transformed** into a “demon” or “vampire” within the context of the characters’ lives and interactions with others. In your paragraphs, **embed specific textual support as well as paraphrased support**. Include **in-text citations** for the chapter and page numbers of your support. <https://owl.english.purdue.edu/owl/resource/747/02/>. A corresponding Works Cited page is unnecessary.

**3.** The **“block” method of comparison/contrast** will probably work best for this essay. Begin with an extended introduction (thesis paragraph) where you provide essential background information (title of novel, **\*\*correctly punctuated**; the author’s full name; and an identification of your two characters (perhaps a brief synopsis of the role they play in the novel) along with the specific ghosts that haunt them, which should serve as your thesis. In your first body paragraphs, analyze the effect of the ghost on one of your characters, then transition to the analysis of your other character. Conclude by connecting the characters to one another through their ghosts (or demons, as the case may be).

**4. Formatting:** Your paper is finished when you have provided a **comprehensive, detailed** response to the prompt. MLA formatting, please.

<https://owl.english.purdue.edu/owl/resource/747/13/>.

**\*\*Correctly Punctuating Titles:**

**“Quotation Marks”:** short story; short poem; chapter in a book; article in a magazine; article in a newspaper; entry in an encyclopedia; episode of television series; song; essay

**Underlining (when you write by hand) or *Italics* (when you type):** novel; book-length poem; full-length book; name of magazine; name of newspaper; name of encyclopedia; name of television series; opera; movie