

All HL students will need to read Plato's "Allegory of the Cave", and draw a personal interpretation of what being in and out of the cave looks like. Over the summer, non-EE students will read the novel *The Cave* by Jose Saramago be ready to take a reading quiz the first day of class. All EE students need to bring an outline or summary notes from 3-5 research sources the first day of school.

We will start the school year discussing what an education is and the concept of enlightenment as a western civilization ideal. This will prompt our investigation of how these very ideals have often been denied based on gender, culture, and ethnicity—hence our Part 2 detailed study: Women's literature (Woolf), Irish poetry (Yeats,) and a review of Morrison and issues of race. Literary theories we will use for this unit include feminist, Marxist/social power, New Historicism, psychological.

### *The Cave* assignment

About Saramago: he writes in a stream of consciousness style. It will take a few pages to get the hang of this flowing thought process. If you want to know more about Saramago and some of his inspiration, read his Nobel acceptance speech.

[https://www.nobelprize.org/nobel\\_prizes/literature/laureates/1998/saramago-lecture.html](https://www.nobelprize.org/nobel_prizes/literature/laureates/1998/saramago-lecture.html)

What you need to do: Divide the novel into three parts. As you read annotate lightly for symbolism, philosophical ideas or social criticism, and shifts in light/dark imagery. For each part, choose one page or three different paragraphs that are most important for your understanding of plot or of a developing theme. Write 200-400 words about each of the three "most important pages". Use quotes to support your claims regarding whom, and how, the particular pages (or paragraphs) are most important for the plot or a theme.

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