

A.P. Lit. and Comp. April 6th, 2020

Learning Target:

Students will be able to identify allusions in an A.P. worthy text.

Success Starter:

Watch this video, and as you watch, think of some allusions you use, or you have seen used in movies, sitcoms, and novels. Jot these down on a sheet of notebook paper.

[Allusion Video](#)

Recitatif: Close Reading/Allusions

You will be reading a short story by Toni Morrison called “Recitatif”.

As you read, take note of allusions you find along the way. Remember, allusions can be as simple as a person’s name, a type of food they are eating, something that they say in passing- any reference used by an author that implies prior knowledge from an audience or reader. This can be tricky at times, which is why looking up what an “A & P” is may seem like a little thing that you would normally ignore. But if you look up those allusions you do not know, not only will your understanding of literature develop, but so will your appreciation of life in general. Television shows will be funnier, movies will be more entertaining, and your understanding and connection with the world will develop as well.

Notes: Allusions

Link to text: [Recitatif by Toni Morrison](#)

Directions:

As you read, take note of any allusions you find in “Recitatif” on a sheet of paper.

This can be the same sheet of paper as your Success Starter.

Look up any unfamiliar allusions. There are a lot of allusions.

Note Example:

Spam: cheap, ground pork that comes in a can

A&P: the largest grocery store chain in history from 1859-2015

Questions

Once you are finished taking note of the allusions used throughout, answer the following questions on a sheet of paper:

1. Each scene throughout the story takes place in a different decade. What are the decades?
2. What are some of the allusions that allow you to infer what decade each scene is set in?

Answers:

Click on the following [link for the answer to question #1.](#)

Example answers for #2:

Jimi Hendrix: 1960s

Segregation: 1950's-60's

Additional Resources

[More Allusion examples](#)

[List of common allusions](#)