

# Do Now – Friday 12/10/10

- Please take out your notebooks, your independent reading book, and a pen or pencil.
- Please turn in your Position Research Folders. The IN BOX is at the front of the room

# Goals

- For students to assert their opinions and give them some responsibility for making judgments about texts (something teachers have to do daily).
- Why do we read? What makes a text a text? What kinds of texts are “worth” reading? What makes “good literature”—or classics—“good”?

# Why are we doing this?

One of the questions that Jane Austen's *Northanger Abbey* raises is what makes a text literary? In fact, throughout the text, the main character, Catherine Morland, is constantly conscious of the judgments people make regarding literature—particularly the gothic novel, a new and controversial phenomenon at the time of publication. Catherine devours these novels and deeply enjoys them but worries that they are seen as something only a woman would read and not considered “worthy” of the title of good literature.

# Journaling for 10 minutes

Make a list of three of your favorite books and three of your least favorite books. Then answer the question: why do *you* read?

# What is a “good text” Stations?

You will have fifteen minutes to read and discuss each text or group of texts.

During your discussion respond to the essential questions on the right side of this slide.

## **Essential Questions:**

- Would you classify the text as a “good book”?
- Would you classify the text as good literature?
- What are some characteristics of this text that are noteworthy (figurative language, narrative techniques, details, tone)?
- If you were a teacher, would you assign this reading to your students?

# The Six Stations:

*You will go to four of these stations.*

1. **Novel Beginnings packet.**
2. **Classics:** *Frankenstein, Streetcar, Langston Hughes*
3. **Beach Reads:** *The Girl with the Dragon Tattoo*
4. **Lack of punctuation:** Haiti essay
5. **Spoken word poem & Possible Blogs:**  
*(links can be found on the class blog)*
6. **Your independent reading book. Read the first five pages and then share.**

# Reminders!

- You need to have your chosen novel for your Independent Reading book in class on Monday! (If you haven't shown it to me already).

# Homework

- Choose one of the texts we looked at in class, watch/read the materials again, and write a 1.5-2 page analytical freewrite—with examples and reasoning—answering the following questions:
  - Would you consider the text a piece of literature?
  - If you were a teacher, would you assign this “reading” to your students? Why or why not?
  - What qualities are you looking for/analyzing when you answer the above questions?