



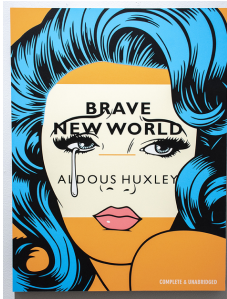
Naomi Shihab Nye gives voice to her experience as an Arab-American through poems about heritage and peace that overflow with a humanitarian spirit.

# Ms. Cassel

## AP Literature & Composition

### Summer Reading 2022

Google Join Code: 5foei5m



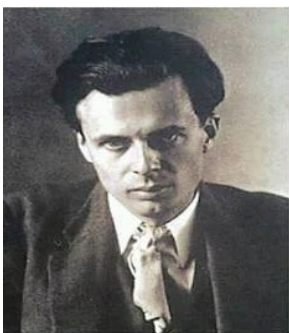
Hello and welcome to the class!

Summer reading harnesses the reading, writing, speaking and listening skills you already have and stretches them into specific academic areas that we will continue to refine all year long. There are three jobs, and each asks you to explore a text, *Brave New World* by Aldous Huxley (fiction), “Kindness” by Naomi Shihab Nye (poetry), and Nerdwriter’s YouTube analysis of Edward Hopper’s “Nighthawks” (video essay and painting). All three jobs will require note taking, analysis, and a demonstrated understanding of literary complexity. The world around us is a complex place; great literature invites us to delve into that wonderful ambiguity and come away, perhaps, with a better, more profound understanding of ourselves. **You are expected to complete all three jobs.**

**Job #1- Read Aldous Huxley’s *Brave New World*, complete novel notes and conduct an online discussion with at least one other classmate or a family member who has read the novel.** Below are two PDF options to access the book online and a 4 page novel note assignment that can be turned in via Google Classroom by the first day of school. The online discussion can be on a topic or topic(s) of your choice related to the novel, but it should reveal each participant’s engagement with the story and analysis of its features (these might include plot, characterization, theme, conflict, symbolism, setting, tone, narrative structure, etc.). You should copy the online discussion and turn this into Google Classroom (join with the code **5foei5m**) by the first day back as well.

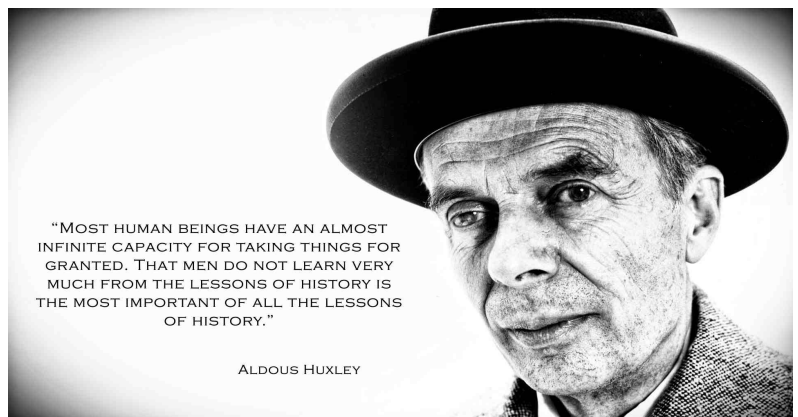
**PDF versions of the novel:** [http://scotswolf.com/aldoushuxley\\_bravenewworld.pdf](http://scotswolf.com/aldoushuxley_bravenewworld.pdf) or <http://www.self.gutenberg.org/eBooks/WPLBN0100000518-Brave-New-World-by-Huxley-Aldous.aspx?>

**Novel Notes:** <https://docs.google.com/document/d/14MNFTfZ-WTtqAzhXsGgKJ31AK7KbGF3S/edit>



**Aldous Huxley**  
(1894-1963)

"There will be in the next generation or so a pharmacological method of making people love their servitude and producing dictatorship without tears so to speak. Producing a kind of painless concentration camp for entire societies so that people will in fact have their liberties taken away from them, but will rather enjoy it, because they will be distracted from any desire to rebel by propaganda, or brainwashing, or brainwashing enhanced by pharmacological methods. And this seems to be the final revolution."



"MOST HUMAN BEINGS HAVE AN ALMOST INFINITE CAPACITY FOR TAKING THINGS FOR GRANTED. THAT MEN DO NOT LEARN VERY MUCH FROM THE LESSONS OF HISTORY IS THE MOST IMPORTANT OF ALL THE LESSONS OF HISTORY."

ALDOUS HUXLEY

**Job #2-** Read and listen to the NPR segment on “How Poetry Has Helped to Guide People During the Pandemic.” This podcast mentions Naomi Shihab Nye’s poem “Kindness.” Watch the companion YouTube pieces that further explore the power and origin of this poet’s work. Lastly, please read the poem carefully and fill out the T-S-P-F-A-S-T-T poetry template we will use all year to explicate poetry.

## Kindness

Naomi Shihab Nye - 1952-

Before you know what kindness really is  
you must lose things,  
feel the future dissolve in a moment  
like salt in a weakened broth.  
What you held in your hand,  
what you counted and carefully saved,  
all this must go so you know  
how desolate the landscape can be  
between the regions of kindness.  
How you ride and ride  
thinking the bus will never stop,  
the passengers eating maize and chicken  
will stare out the window forever.

Before you learn the tender gravity of kindness  
you must travel where the Indian in a white poncho  
lies dead by the side of the road.  
You must see how this could be you,  
how he too was someone  
who journeyed through the night with plans  
and the simple breath that kept him alive.

Before you know kindness as the deepest thing inside,  
you must know sorrow as the other deepest thing.  
You must wake up with sorrow.  
You must speak to it till your voice  
catches the thread of all sorrows  
and you see the size of the cloth.  
Then it is only kindness that makes sense anymore,  
only kindness that ties your shoes  
and sends you out into the day to gaze at bread,  
only kindness that raises its head  
from the crowd of the world to say  
It is I you have been looking for,  
and then goes with you everywhere  
like a shadow or a friend.

Read/listen to the NPR article, watch all four video clips, take notes, dissect this poem and turn in the completed T-S-P-F-A-S-T-T form on Google Classroom (join with the code:5foei5m ) by the first day of school.

NPR’s “How Poetry Has Helped to Guide People During the Pandemic” :

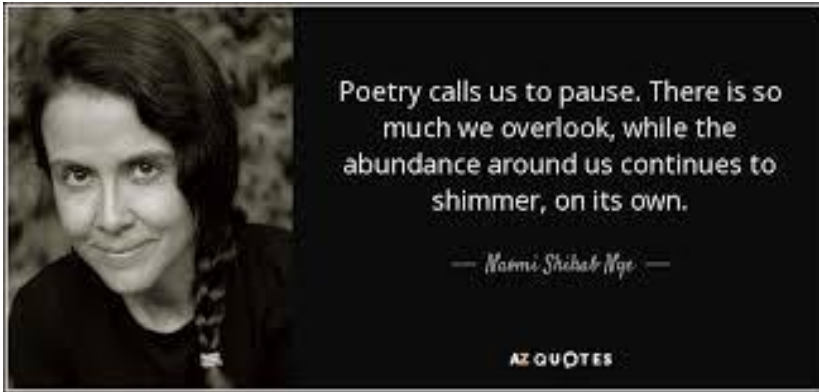
<https://www.npr.org/2021/04/27/991117892/how-poetry-has-helped-to-guide-people-during-the-pandemic>

“Kindness” read by Naomi Shihab Nye : <https://youtu.be/8UF3NoIGSHg>

“Kindness” Animated Poetry Film : <https://youtu.be/xFLQOOiAqxQ>

Short interview with the poet on what inspires her poetry: <https://youtu.be/5gDZefjvQ-0>

TSPFASTT Template: [https://drive.google.com/open?id=1LHiPIM0\\_A3HT4vqSOxDnlycStu5PiYLi](https://drive.google.com/open?id=1LHiPIM0_A3HT4vqSOxDnlycStu5PiYLi) or <https://dochub.com/jcassel-bm5ybf/gYzM7mBwDjar814KqJ6EoO/tspfastt-and-poetry-terms-1-pdf>



**Job #3:** Watch Video Blogger Nerdwriter’s short YouTube clip analysis of artist Edward Hopper’s famous painting “Nighthawks”, then choose a work of art that appeals to you, and write a response that explores the complexity in that particular piece. The Nerdwriter video essays are great models for this type of analysis. He manages to analyze art, literature, movies, politics and society in brief entertaining, organized video essays. His analysis celebrates the complexity of the topic but also helps viewers better understand what they’re seeing. He uses historical, biographical and a part-by-part approach to uncover meaning and make connections. With the art you choose (a painting, a sculpture, a song- you are free to choose whatever you’d like), include a picture of the piece or words to the song and spend a few paragraphs explaining not only what it means to you but how it offers rich complexity as well. Provide a roadmap into that complexity by explaining its parts, its history, the relevance of the life of the artist, and/or the symbolism within your chosen example. Do not just summarize the piece of art you’ve chosen. Explain its artistic merit and its meaning. Analyze the why and how behind its relevance. Research its history and the life of the artist in order to better explain its importance, as Nerdwriter does with the Hopper painting. Watch how Nerdwriter’s analysis is rooted in research, careful explanation, evidence and commentary. Write your response using these same tactics. You can turn in the picture of the art and your analysis into Google Classroom by the first day of class (join with the code **5foei5m**) . I’m looking forward to seeing the art you choose and your keen ability to explain its complexity!

Nerdwriter’s Analysis of Hopper’s “Nighthawks”: Look Through the Window: <https://youtu.be/7j5pUtRcNX4>

