

Persuasion Solo Work 1 (each person works by themselves and these are turned in at the end of the period – no exceptions (even if you didn't read)).

1. Consider the following quote: “Sir Walter Elliot, of Kellynch-hall, in Somersetshire, was a man who, for his own amusement, never took up any book but the Baronetage... there any unwelcome sensations, arising from domestic affairs, changed naturally into pity and contempt, **as he turned over the almost endless creations of the last century** [emphasis mine].”

Link that quote to Macbeth’s “If chance would have me king.” In other words, while Sir Walter pleases himself with his meaningless “history” of mere words and chance – what is Anne doing (what must she do to survive)?

2. Consider the following quote: “He considered the blessing of beauty as inferior only to the blessing of a baronetcy...” A baronetcy is a title (like Lord). Connect this to the first quote – how does Sir Walter’s (the “he” in the sentence) superficiality (vapidity) overthrow the stereotypical view of men and women and link it with a certain prologue from The Canterbury Tales.

3. “[Lady Elliot] had humoured, or softened, or concealed his [Sir Walter’s] failings, and promoted his real respectability for seventeen years...” Connect this quote to what you wrote for questions 1 & 2 – be as specific as possible.

4. Closely examine the following 2 quotes – the second is from Chapter 6 (yes it’s here for a reason). Now, show a brilliant and meaningful (and quite ironic) connection between the two that shows something about a) Lady Russell b) Anne c) Mary

A: (Chapter 6) - [on Charles Musgrove] – “Anne could believe, with Lady Russell, that a more equal match might have greatly improved him; and that a woman of real understanding might have given more consequence to his character, and more usefulness, rationality, and elegance to his habits and pursuits.”

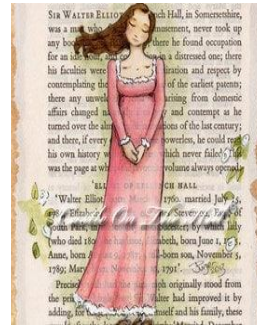
B: (Chapter 1) - “Mary had acquired a little artificial importance by becoming Mrs. Musgrove; but Anne, with an elegance of mind and sweetness of character, which must have placed her high with any people of real understanding, was nobody with either father or sister: her word had no weight; her convenience was always to give way— she was only Anne”

5. Consider the following quote: “A few years before, Anne Elliot had been a very pretty girl, but her bloom had vanished early.” How does this quote play into the stereotypes that exist for women (and youth vs. old age). Look at the lyrics to the song by Lily Allen (in the box on the left). Connect the quote (along with its stereotypes) to Ms. Allen’s song. Of course, be specific.

6. Consider the following quote: “Can we retrench? does it occur to you that there is any one article in which we can retrench?” First off, it has always struck my students (especially right after the economy crashed in 2008, that the word “retrench” is remarkably modern. Have we seen other words, other instances in this class where something from 100’s of years ago seems like it could have been said today? Next, Sir Walter and his family must retrench in an economic sense – how has Anne – since the events that occurred when she was much younger been forced to “retrench.” Link this with your answer to question 5.

7. Lady Russell says: “We must be serious and decided – for, after all, the person who has contracted debts must pay them...” First right down what you think she means by that. Ok, now tell me how this applies to 1) Sir Walter 2) Anne and ok – here is the really cool one: Lady Russell, the woman who talked Anne out of a marriage – a decision that she now views as a mistake – and one that she(Anne) has regretted ever since.

MACBETH DAY INSTRUCTIONS – Meet in the Theater at the beginning of 1st Period. Please remember to invite your parents – I could really use their help (especially this year). Bring a Lunch. You will have the first 25 minutes of 1st period to get dressed and ready. Make sure someone from another group knows how to use your phone, mp3 players, etc and that the music is all cued. Have your director’s notebooks. Be READY! I can’t wait – I miss you guys, and appreciate all you do. Thank you.



22 by Lily Allen

When she was 22 her future looked bright
But she's nearly 30 now and she's out every night
I see that look in her face, she's got that look in her eye
She's thinking how did I get here and wondering why

It's sad but it's true how society says her life is already over
There is nothing to do and there is nothing to say
'Til the man of her dreams comes along
Picks her up and puts her over his shoulder
It seems so unlikely in this day and age

Refrain

She's got an alright job but it's not a career
Whenever she thinks about it, it brings her to tears
'Cause all she wants is a boyfriend, she gets one night stands
She's thinking how did I get here, I'm doing all that I can