

AP English Literature and Composition  
Summer/Winter Break Assignment 2017-18:

Complete the following essay assignment:

In *The Writing of Fiction* (1925), novelist Edith Wharton states the following:

At every stage in the progress of his tale the novelist must rely on what may be called the illuminating incident to reveal and emphasize the inner meaning of each situation. Illuminating incidents are the magic casements of fiction, its vistas on infinity.

Choose a novel or play of ***literary merit*** and write a well-organized essay in which you describe an “illuminating” episode or moment and explain how it functions as a “casement,” a window that opens onto the meaning of the work as a whole. Avoid mere plot summary. Typed and double-spaced.

You may ask me for a suggestion or use the lists provided on The Realm of Ricketts website.

Your essay is due the first day of class.

Good luck and I look forward to meeting you the first day of class.

Mr. Ricketts