

Great Books Seminar Assignment 20

1. Finish reading William Shakespeare's *Tempest*, Acts 4 and 5.
2. Finish your speech night speech.
3. We will be having the Jane Austen Tea Party this coming Friday.

Long-Term Assignments

On the last Friday in February, we will write a timed in-class essay (limit: 25 minutes total) on the play with one of the following essay main ideas:

- * The storm in *The Tempest* is a symbol for suffering and the possible redemption that emanates from it.
- * *The Tempest* is a self-referencing work in which the magic of Prospero mirrors the art of the theater.
- * The character Caliban is a type or symbol of unbridled passion, which necessitates strict government
- * Freedom is only possible when man is "bonded" to virtue.
- * The foil characters of Caliban and Ariel in *The Tempest* are representations of the fleshly or mechanical nature of man and the creative faculties of the artist.
- * *The Tempest* is a commentary on the idea of utopian governments.
- * Any other topic that we discussed in class, or an idea of your own.

The essay should contain five well-organized paragraphs containing the following:

1. *An introduction with main idea.* The introduction should contain background information necessary for the reader to understand your thesis. Do not give irrelevant details about the play or the author.
2. *Three well-developed body paragraphs.* Each body paragraph begins with a topic sentence, which you should explain; give examples or references to illustrate your ideas; and then apply them to your topic sentence/ main idea.
3. *A conclusion.* The conclusion primarily talks about the significance of what you have written.

