**The “APLIT” Awards**

Welcome to the annual “APLIT” Awards! For each of the following categories, please select your nomination for winner while also offering support for your pick. This is a graded assignment so be sure to include reflective commentary and specific examples for each selection. Your responses should be well-developed and present thoughtful insight. You may also have the opportunity to make your own submission if you feel we overlooked a nominee. This is a fun opportunity to review our literature and share your opinions about the characters and stories we read throughout the year

***Feel free to select nominees from the book you read for each of the categories.***

I am looking forward to seeing this year’s winners!

**Best Female Protagonist**

* Elizabeth Proctor – The Crucible
* Daisy Buchanan – The Great Gatsby
* Ashima Ganguli – The Namesake
* Ophelia - Hamlet

**Best Supporting Female Protagonist**

* Rebecca Nurse – The Crucible
* Jordan Baker – The Great Gatsby
* Sonia Ganguli – The Namesake

**Best Male Protagonist**

* John Proctor – The Crucible
* Jay Gatsby – The Great Gatsby
* Hamlet - Hamlet
* Gogol (Nikhil) Ganguli – The Namesake

**Best Supporting Male Protagonist**

* Giles Corey – The Crucible
* Nick Carraway – The Great Gatsby
* Horatio - Hamlet
* Ashoke Ganguli – The Namesake

**Best Female Antagonist**

* Abigail Williams – The Crucible
* Queen Gertrude - Hamlet
* Moushumi Mazoomdar – The Namesake

**Best Male Antagonist**

* Judge Danforth – The Crucible
* Tom Buchanan – The Great Gatsby
* King Claudius - Hamlet

**Favorite Setting**

* 1692 Salem, Massachusetts – The Crucible
* 1920’s Long Island, New York - The Great Gatsby
* Denmark, Elsinore Castle - Hamlet
* Boston, Massachusetts/India – 1968-Present- The Namesake

**Favorite Theme – Select the single story with the overall best theme**

The Crucible

* The dangers of intolerance and hysteria
* The importance and influence of one’s reputation

The Great Gatsby

* The decline of the American Dream in the 1920’s
* The hollowness of the upper class
* The realization to know when to let go of something and move on

The Namesake

* The relationship between parents and children
* The importance of names and identity
* The idea of being alienated from family, important people, and your sense of home

Hamlet

* The impossibility of certainty
* The complexity of action
* The mystery of death
* The nation as a diseased body

**Best Symbols – Select the single story with the overall best symbols**

The Crucible

* The witch trials and McCarthyism – Paranoia about the fear of communism in the 1950’s

The Great Gatsby

* Green light – Gatsby’s hope for the future
* Valley of Ashes – Moral and social decay
* Eyes of Dr. T. J. Eckleburg – judgment from God

The Namesake

* Names – define who we are, where we came from, gives us our identity.
* Food – unites the family and reminds them of home.
* Trains – traveling to various places to find identity and connection.

Hamlet

* Yorick’s skull – Death’s inevitability and disintegration of the body.

**Select the Best Story of the Year**

**Select the Worst Story of the Year**

* The Crucible by Arthur Miller
* The Great Gatsby by F. Scott Fitzgerald
* Hamlet by William Shakespeare
* The Namesake by Jhumpa Lahiri
* ***Your independent reading selection***