Book Review

Choose <u>one</u> of the four books below:

John Steinbeck, *Of Mice and Men* (ISBN: 9781907590337)

Edna O'Brian, *Girl with Green Eyes* (ISBN: 9783068018675)

Doris Lessing, *The Grass is Singing* (ISBN: 9780586089248)

Kazuo Ishiguro, *The Remains of the Day* (ISBN: 9780571275588)

<u>Use the analysis form</u> below to talk about the book:

<u>Analysis of a Novel form</u>

<u>A. The Setting</u>

* When and where does the action take place?

* How important is the setting to the work as a whole?

<u>B. The Plot</u>

* What, briefly, is the main plot? Trace its development, climax and solution?

* Are there any subsidiary plots? Describe them.

* Did you notice any coincidences or surprising turns of events?

* How important is the plot to the work as a whole?

<u>C. The Characters</u>

* Who are the main characters (her and heroine)? Describe their physical appearance, social position and character, as revealed by what they say and do, and by what others say about them.

* Who are the most important subsidiary characters? Describe them.

* Is there any development or change of character in the book?

* Is the characterization credible? Is it subtle or in black and white?

<u>D. The Themes</u>

Are any of the following themes introduced?

Human relationship - love, hate, fear, jealousy...

Social problems; political problems; religious problems;

The Arts; science. Describe the way any of these are presented.

Is there any philosophical message to be read from the work?

E. The Form

* Is the story presented directly by the writer in the first person, or indirectly (God's view)? What effect does this have?

* What use is made of the following literary forms: dialogue, narrative, letters, poetry, natural description, personal description?

* Analyze the sentence structure. Are the sentences simple or complex; short or long?

* Analyze the vocabulary. Is it simple or difficult; colloquial or literary?

* Is the writing humorous? What kind of humour is it - verbal, situation, slapstick?

* Is there irony or wit?

* Would you say the writer's treatment of his subject was: realistic, romantic, ironic, tragic, surrealistic?

And finally what did you think of the book, and why?

Talk around 10 minutes.

You do your presentation through Skype or Google video mail (book a time with me) or send it video recorded to my mail if you have trouble finding a time : agneta.jonasson@ksgyf.se

Grade E

Students discuss **in basic terms** some features in different contexts and parts of the world where English is used, and can also make **simple** comparisons with their own experiences and knowledge. In oral and written communications of various genres, students can express themselves in ways are varied, clear and **structured.** Students can also express themselves with fluency and **some** adaptation to purpose, recipient and situation. Students work on and make **well grounded** improvements to their own communications.

Grade C

Students discuss **in detail** some features in different contexts and parts of the world where English

used, and can also make **well developed** comparisons with their own experiences and knowledge. In oral and written communications of various genres, students can express themselves in ways that are varied, **balanced,**clear and **structured.** Students can also express themselves with fluency and adaptation to purpose, recipient and situation. Students work on and make **well grounded and balanced** improvements to their own communications.

Grade A

Students discuss **in detail and in a balanced way** some features in different contexts and parts of the world where English is used, and can also make **well developed and balanced** comparisons with their own experiences and knowledge. In oral and written communications of various genres, students can express themselves with **good precision**, in ways that are varied, **balanced**, clear and **well structured.** Students can also express themselves with fluency and **good** adaptation to purpose, recipient and situation. Students work on and make **well grounded and balanced** improvements to their own communications.