

**The reading:** Candide by Voltaire-the reading is found on-line free in a PDF Document:  
<https://www.academia.edu/37335661/Voltaire-Candide.pdf>

Candide is the story of a gentle man who, though beaten and slapped in every direction by fate, clings desperately to the belief that he lives in “the best of all possible worlds.” On the surface a witty, mocking tale, this eighteenth-century classic is a satiric thrust at the philosophical optimism that proclaims that all disaster and human suffering is part of a benevolent universal plan. Fast, funny, often outrageous, the French philosopher’s immortal narrative takes Candide around the world to discover that — contrary to the teachings of his tutor, Dr. Pangloss, — all is not always for the best. Alive with wit, brilliance, and graceful storytelling, Candide has become Voltaire’s most celebrated work.

**Meet Voltaire** by watching the following video-take notes as you watch. Copy and paste the website into the search bar to open and view it. <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=LAzKGkTIKpg>

**Learn about the Enlightening Period.** Copy and paste the website into the search bar to open and view it-[https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=nly9r\\_xYyPA](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=nly9r_xYyPA)

**Take Cornell Notes** as you read and keep them for assessment during the first week of the 20-21 school year. Google Cornell Notes to review how to accurately take the notes.

**Guiding Questions:**

1. What is the irony of Voltaire calling his satirical novella Candide.
2. There is satire in every situation that Candide experiences. Select any chapter and briefly discuss the satirical situation of the selected chapter.
3. Why does Voltaire mock the church? Cite explicit evidence.
4. Why does Candide begin to refute the teachings of his tutor? Cite explicit evidence.
5. How is Cunegonde’s character a focus of Voltaire’s development of the plot.
6. When and where is Candide encounter as a murderer. Cite evidence.
7. What is ironic about the “Old Woman’s situation (her life and her destiny)? Cite Explicit evidence.
8. Identify a scenario that Voltaire creates to refute the ideology that “evil is balanced with good”.
9. Identify at least one historical even used by Voltaire to refute the view of “Optimistic Enlightenment Thinkers”. Cite explicit evidence.
10. Juxtapose Candide’s character at the start of the novella to the end.
11. How do events in the novella compare to situations in society today-give two examples. Cite evidence from the text as well as present society.
12. How does Voltaire depict “religion and philosophy vs the world”? Respond in no more than 2 sentences.

Whitehaven High School  
Advanced Placement  
Literature and Composition  
Summer Reading Project  
Summer 2020

Use Modern Language Association (MLA) Style of writing to complete the final task. Visit the following websites before approaching the task: [https://owl.purdue.edu/owl/purdue\\_owl.html](https://owl.purdue.edu/owl/purdue_owl.html) . Once you get to the Purdue Owl's Webpage, scroll down and click on MLA and read so that you will know how to type your essay. Remember to copy and paste the link into your search bar.

**Character Analysis**-View the video and take notes: <https://study.com/academy/lesson/character-analysis-in-literature-definition-examples-quiz.html>. Remember to copy and paste the link. You can also use "YouTube" videos on Character Analysis.

**Writing Task:** Select a character that is significant to the development of Voltaire's plot (do not select Candide), and write a 300-350-word character analysis.