CAP 2011

Grade 11: Teaching Going After Cacciato, The Road, and Charming Billy in English SCALE

East Meadow School District

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Abstract

The following CAP, Teaching Going After Cacciato, The Road, and Charming Billy in English SCALE is a CAP designed for use in an advanced English class. The literature has been chosen for the advanced student. While reading these novels, students will be discussing the historical context related to each novel.

The lessons in this unit address the New York State Common Core Standards:

A. Determine two or more central ideas of a text and analyze their development over the course of the text, including how they interact and build on one another to provide a complex analysis; provide an objective summary of the text.

B. Analyze and evaluate the effectiveness of the structure an author uses in his or her exposition or argument, including whether the structure makes points clear, convincing and engaging.

C. Produce a clear and coherent writing in which the development, organization, and style are appropriate to the task, purpose, and audience.

D. Conduct short as well as more sustained research projects to answer a question or solve a problem; narrow or broaden the inquiry when appropriate; synthesize multiple sources on the subject, demonstrating understanding of the subject under investigation

E. Demonstrate understanding of figurative language, word relationships, and nuances in word meanings.

Rationale

When students are reading works of literature, questions that English teachers often hear are, “Why do we have to read this?” or “What does this have to do with me?” When we respond to questions such as those, it is important that we support our own statements about why the book is interesting or relevant by referring to aspects of reality. When students see that regardless of era, there are certain universal themes and ideas that are timeless, their appreciation for literature grows. Whether students are reading a piece of literature that is set in an apocalyptic future or sorts, 1960’s Vietnam, or Long Island during the span of 1945-1995, they can identify with themes such as loss of a loved one, chasing a dream, escaping from reality, or the myriad compartments of the human heart. Most importantly, students can identify with the traditional idea of the journey and the lessons learned about life on that journey. When students see these themes are timeless, their interest and motivation to read grows.

**Understanding by Design**

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| **Stage One – Desired Results** | |
| New York State Common Core English Language Arts Standards for 11th and 12th graders:  Students will be able to…  A. Determine two or more central ideas of a text and analyze their development over the course of the text, including how they interact and build on one another to provide a complex analysis; provide an objective summary of the text.  B. Analyze and evaluate the effectiveness of the structure an author uses in his or her exposition or argument, including whether the structure makes points clear, convincing and engaging.  C. Produce a clear and coherent writing in which the development, organization, and style are appropriate to the task, purpose, and audience.  D. Conduct short as well as more sustained research projects to answer a question or solve a problem; narrow or broaden the inquiry when appropriate; synthesize multiple sources on the subject, demonstrating understanding of the subject under investigation  E. Demonstrate understanding of figurative language, word relationships, and nuances in word meanings. | |
| Understanding(s)  Students will understand that   1. The family dynamic is a complex and sometimes difficult experience 2. Experiences during times of war can be simultaneously tragic and beautiful 3. The love one has for a child can surpass the physical state of being | Essential Question(s):   1. What effect does war have on the individual? 2. How does one teach a child to live and survive with dignity in a cruel and savage world? 3. How deeply can one delve into the human psyche for answers that may not exist? |
| Students will know   1. How difficult but necessary it is to live according to one’s codes of morality in a time of savagery. 2. How does one survive with dignity in a stressful and traumatic situation. 3. What leads someone to escape from reality and self- medicate. | Students will be able to   1. Read and understand three challenging texts. 2. Write a college level paper using citations from three works or literature in addition to research documents 3. Support a thesis with facts. 4. Productively use the internet to find articles that connect to themes in each work of literature. 5. Discuss the three works of literature and their respective themes with each other. |
| **Stage 2 – Assessment of Evidence** | |
| Performance Task(s):   1. Read three works of literature. 2. Answer thought provoking questions related to each work 3. Write a college level paper developing a thesis, using evidence from the texts to develop that thesis, and use outside resources to support information. | Other Evidence:   1. Students will be asked to complete a “webquest” during each unit where they will find articles relating to themes from each novel such as family dynamics, alcoholism, cruelty and humanity in the modern world, the causes and aftermath of the Vietnam War, evolutions and revolutions during eras in America’s history. |
| **Stage 3 – Learning Plan** | |
| Learning Activities:   1. Study guide to enhance understanding of three literary texts. 2. Study guide can be used as a guide to teach, quiz, or encourage students to ask thought provoking questions. 3. Students can use the internet, specifically [www.bigchalk.com](http://www.bigchalk.com) to discover articles, film clips, transcripts that coordinate with themes from the three works of literature. 4. Students can use the high school library’s resources to coordinate articles that coincide with the themes from the three works of literature. 5. Students will link ideas from one work of literature to the other as we continue through the three units. 6. Independent reading project where the main character is on a “journey” and the lessons learned along the way. | |

Charming Billy

Alice McDermott

I

1. Why had Maud chosen this particular place for Billy’s funeral dinner?
2. What kind of courage does Maeve possess?
3. What are the mourners going to recreate this afternoon?
4. What is the irony of toasting Billy?
5. What are some of the things that your love of Billy forced you to do?
6. Why, in redeeming his life, must one remember Eva?
7. How has Maeve “had her share of it”?
8. What story of heart break and broken love does the chorus of voices produce about Eva and Billy?
9. What seems to be the difference between his relationship with Maeve and Eva?
10. How had the nature of Billy’s drinking changed?
11. What do they want to ask Dennis about Billy and Maeve?
12. What differing opinions do Dan Lynch and Rosemary have concerning Billy’s alcoholism?
13. What is more romantic about Dan Lynch’s view of Billy’s downfall?
14. What surprising twist to Eva’s story does the narrator’s father add?

II

1. What had Dennis discovered from Eva’s sister?
2. What doesn’t he have the courage to do?
3. Why does he lie?
4. Why does he consider this audacious?
5. What does Billy say he can’t understand about Dennis’s behavior?
6. What does the narrator ask her father?
7. What was Billy’s reaction toward Dennis when he discovered the truth?
8. In retrospect, does Dennis think he did the right thing?
9. How is Dennis’s view of Billy’s nature moderate between the more extreme views of both Rosemary and Dan Lynch?
10. What do you suppose the narrator “remembers”?

III

1. How had Dennis inherited the Long Island house?
2. How did his mother display her pragmatism?
3. What was her philosophy of life?
4. How did he ultimately show her fear of God?
5. On her deathbed, what does she want to get Billy to do?
6. How had even she been deluded?
7. What had happened to Dennis’s wife?
8. How does the narrator describe her parent’s marriage?
9. What does the narrator reveal about the future of the boy sitting in the car waiting for his father?
10. What effect does this detail have on the narrative?
11. What small detail had changed Mr. West’s life completely, according to Dennis?
12. How had Billy let Dennis know he knew the truth about Eva?
13. What story does Billy tell about the narrator’s christening?
14. Why?
15. What does she witness upon returning that evening?

IV

1. What chore had Billy and Dennis embarked on after the war?
2. Why does the East End so surprise Billy?
3. How does life offer such promise?
4. How do they meet the girls?
5. What had prevented them from having sexual experience before meeting them?
6. What is the girl’s situation?
7. How does Billy impress the girl?
8. What does it mean that that afternoon he fell in love?
9. Why isn’t the man served at the bar?
10. What does Billy feel while kissing her?
11. What does he try to convince her to do?
12. What does Dennis realize would be his mother’s reaction to Billy’s sudden infatuation?

V

1. What are his mother’s regrets as she watches Dennis leave for work every morning?
2. Characterize the nature of the “wonderments” that her marriage to Holtzman brought?
3. What role did Daniel Lynch play in her life?
4. What nightmare was she daily on the verge of her in her 18th year?
5. How would she have disappointed her parents?
6. How is “Paddy” representative of Daniel’s character?
7. What does her relationship with Daniel give her?
8. Characterize the nature of their married life?
9. What pleasure does cleaning give her during her second marriage?
10. What does the church provide Billy after Eva’s departure to Ireland?
11. What slows Billy in his quest to some money to bring Eva back from Ireland?
12. Where does Dennis get the ten dollars he gives to Billy?
13. How does it represent the “forces at work in the world”?
14. And how, considering these forces, is it foolish to believe in love?
15. Why does he approach Holtzman?
16. Why did he ask him rather than his mother?
17. What power does Dennis feels as he presents Billy with Holtzman’s check?
18. What other decision does Dennis make?

VI

1. Why, according to Holtzman, was Billy not at work this particular evening?
2. What are the circumstances by which he meets Maeve?
3. How will Billy gain a part in her life?
4. How had Maeve attained a sense of the precariousness of life?
5. Why does she bring her father to the store?

VII

1. Sitting in Billy’s house, “how can anyone help but think of what”?
2. What other funeral does Dennis think of?
3. How do the opinions offered by the people in Billy’s living room about Billy Holtzman, Daniel Lynch now, begin to look like foolish half truths?
4. What moment was their presence designed to deflect?
5. How do the “wren like” woman’s comments capture the difficulties of accepting death?
6. What does Kate suggest might’ve helped Maeve cope?
7. What does the priest “know”?
8. Why does the life Billy still has, according to the priest, not satisfy her?
9. What does the priest realize is the “only antidote tonight for Maeve’s hopelessness”?

VIII

1. What had Billy done to Maeve that one time back in 1972?
2. How had she found out about his death?
3. How do the women’s voices form a kind of Greek chorus?
4. What do they call Maeve a marvel of?
5. How were Dennis’s nights now going to be different?
6. What, according to Dan Lynch, is different about a priest?
7. What does he believe would eliminate their differentness?

IX

1. What does Dan Lynch say you find yourself doing on a day like this?
2. What are they both searching for?
3. Why had Dan never met Eva, and how does he turn that into a defensive pose?
4. Why does Dan think Billy opted for Maeve?
5. What else did Holtzman’s money provide?
6. What was Billy’s relationship with Maeve’s father like?
7. What does drink open a door into?
8. How is it comparable to religion?
9. What mistake does Dan now think they made with Billy’s alcoholism?
10. What differing views do Dennis and Dan now offer about Billy’s drinking?
11. What “sense” does Dennis feel Dan is reaching for?
12. How does Dennis believe that sense is far too simplistic?
13. Why does Dan believe she chose Billy?
14. Why won’t Dennis tell Dan the truth?

X

1. What was surprising about Billy’s cause of death?
2. What does Dennis do with the ten dollars given to him by the reverend?
3. Why?
4. How does the act come back to bite him?
5. In the phone call, what does Billy say most troubles him about Eva’s death?
6. What does the drunken Billy say that makes a mockery of the crucifixion?
7. What was “the first tremor of the devastation that would strike him”?

XI

1. What had her father once told her mother about ever remarrying?
2. What does the narrator say about those who claim exclusivity in love?
3. What couldn’t he convince himself of after her death?
4. What strikes the narrator about all of them that night?

XII

1. What did Billy plan to do in Ireland?
2. How does he end up meeting Eva?
3. What guilt does Bessie say Eva has been carrying around?
4. What has she done with her life?
5. What does he see in her face that hadn’t been there before?
6. What has caused her estrangement from Mary?
7. Where had the narrator and Matt’s childhood merged?
8. Why had Matt always hated the little house?
9. What, for Matt, came with the absence of love?
10. How is the history of the house redeemed?
11. How had the “old fashioned glass juicer” rode out time?
12. How do Matt’s parents exhibit the “tenacious desire to be connected”?
13. How does Dennis’s mother prove that “there were all kinds of things in her heart and in her mind that we never knew”?
14. How might that stand for the overall theme of the novel?
15. How do Dennis and Maeve end up living their lives?

The Road

By Cormac McCarthy

1. What is the significance of touching the child?

2. How does the description of the setting create the emotional mood?

3. How do we know that the world has been in this state for some time?\

4. Why does he go in the empty gas station?

5. What does his aborted phone call suggest about his longings?

6. What is the light symbolic of?

7. How does the man answer the boy’s question?

8. What does he wish concerning his heart?

9. What does he warn the boy about?

10. What was the “perfect day of his childhood”?

11. How is the snowflake perfectly fitting for the new world?

12. What does their indifference to the hanging corpses suggest about their priorities?

13. Why does he mistrust his dreams?

14. What does he think will happen if he lives long enough?

15. What house does he bring the boy to?

16. How did his childhood dreams differ from reality?

17. What does the father wonder if he can do when the time comes?

18. What stands between him and death?

19. What had he assumed would determine their survival?

20. What does the boy warn him about broken promises?

21. What are some of the little things the father has done for the boy to try to retain some normalcy in an abnormal world?

22. How does he try to instill the old values in the boy through stories?

23. How does the jackknifed truck provide a temporary home?

24. What upsets the boy?

25. How is the father’s pragmatism displayed?

26. What is the significance of 1:17?

27. What philosophical differences separated the father from his wife?

28. Why do the three men keep looking at the boy?

29. What does he insist the boy carry?

30. How do the contents of his backpack reveal the nature of his life?

31. What does washing and drying the boy’s hair give them both?

32. What do they find in the town?

33. How does the father feel the world is shrinking?

34. Describe the people who pass them.

35. What does the boy wonder if the father will tell him?

36. Why is not even the snow purifying?

37. What is he saying, “I’m sorry,” to the boy for?

38. What discovery do they make in the cellar of the house?

39. What does the father wonder if he is capable of doing?

40. What are the cries they hear emanating from the house?

41. What does he realize desperation has led him to?

42. What hard truths does the father tell the boy about these people?

43. How are the billboards an example of an altered world?

44. What assurance does the boy want from the father?

45. What does he realize is the “absolute truth of the world?”

46. Looking at the boy’s face, what does he fear is gone that can’t be made right?

47. What does he find in the cellar that alters his plans?

48. What contrast is drawn between “this tiny paradise” and the abandoned turn they walk through?

49. What does the boy want to do for the old man?

50. Why does the old man think it will be better when everybody is gone?

51. What does the old man say about wishing them luck?

52. What do they discover in the woods?

53. During the father’s illness, how do his “dreams brighten”?

54. What do they find of use in the house?

55. How is the ocean described as lifeless?

56. What do you suppose the boy cries for upon emerging from the sea?

57. What memory does he have concerning his wife?

58. What does the boy lose? What does the father say that reflects his initial anger?

59. When lost, what do they hear that enables them to get back to the cart?

60. What answer does the father give the boy when he is asked how many people are left in the world?

61. How does the father strive to keep the culture alive?

62. What causes him to fall on his knees, sobbing in rage?

63. What happens to their belongings?

64. What does the boy beg the father not to do?

65. What does he apologize to the boy for?

66. What does the man say was the bravest thing he’d ever done?

67. What is deeply troubling the man now?

68. Why doesn’t the man want the boy to make a tent for him out of the tarp?

69. What does the man insist the boy do?

70. Where does the man say the fire has always been?

71. What does the father say he can’t do?

72. How will he always be with the boy?

73. What does the father say will find the lost little boy?

74. Who does discover the boy?

75. Is he a good guy or a bad guy?

76. What does he assure his dead father?

77. What does the woman say the breath of God is?

Going After Cacciato

Tim O’Brien

Chapter 1

Going After Cacciato

1. How have each of the following characters died:

Billy Boy Watkins

Frenchie Tucker

Bernie Lynn

Lieutenant Sidney Martin

2. What is significant about opening the novel in this way?

3. What has Cacciato done? How does he plan to get there?

4. Characterize Cacciato. What opinion do the men have of him?

5. What do Doc and Paul Berlin say about Cacciato and cowardice and bravery? Why do you think this is important?

6. As the men begin to pursue Cacciato, how is the countryside described?

7. What evidence (of Cacciato’s) do the men find on the trail?

8. What is the “booby’s booby trap”?

9. What does Paul Berlin think about Cacciato’s leaving?

10. What memory does Paul Berlin have of his father? Why is this important?

Chapter 2

The Observation Post

1. What is Paul Berlin’s primary goal?

2. What does Doc say to Paul Berlin about biles? How does this relate to Cacciato?

3. What might Paul Perlin’s questions at the end of the chapter signify?

Chapter 3

The Road to Paris

1. What point does Murphy make to the lieutenant?

2. What kind of routine do the men have?

3. Do you think catching Cacciato is “necessary”? What might their desire to catch Cacciato represent?

4. What does Murphy do? What do the rest of the men do?

Chapter 4

How They Were Organized

1. What is important about the first “lecture” Paul Berlin receives?

2. How does the name calling make Paul Berlin feel? How does it contrast with the way he sees himself? How does this contrast serve to reflect a larger issue?

3. Why doesn’t Paul Berlin interact with the others?

4. Describe his experience in the Indian Guides. How does this relate to his experience in the army?

5. What is important about the quote Paul Berlin writes on the latrine? “I’m so short, I can’t see the forest for the trees.”

6. Characterize the following characters as they have been described so far:

Oscar Johnson

Lieutenant Sidney Martin

Doc Peret

Lieutenant Corson

Eddie Lazzutti

Jim Pederson

7. Discuss the difference between formal and informal SOP’s.

Chapter 5

The Observation Post

1. What are some difficulties the soldiers face during the “hour guard” post?

2. What are some tricks Paul Berlin uses for making time move? Why might these be useful?

3. What difference exists between November back home in Des Moines and where he is now?

4. What plans does he have once the war is over?

5. What does he imagine saying to his father? Why is this important?

6. What do medals signify?

7. What is signified by his thought f going to Europe?

Chapter 6

Detours on the Road to Paris

1. What happens when the men enter the clearing?

2. Characterize Stink Harris during this episode.

3. Who is Sarkin Aung Wan? What has her life been like? What goals does she have?

4. What does Paul Berlin think of her?

Chapter 7

Riding the Road to Paris

1. How does the dream of going to Paris evolve now that their group has grown?

2. How does Paul Berlin attempt to convince the Lieutenant to allow Sarkin Aung Wan to join them?

3. How does Sarkin Aung Wan prove her “worth”? What does she say about herself?

Chapter 8

The Observation Post

1. What does Paul Berlin do that he says is his “bravest moment”? What might this represent?

2. What advice did Paul Berlin’s father give to him on his last night in Des Moines? What do you think about this?

Chapter 9

How Bernie Lynn Died After Frenchie Tucker

1. Explain how Frenchie Tucker died and how Bernie was shot as well.

2. Why is Oscar particularly frustrated and angry?

3. Why is Ben Nystrom crying?

4. What is significant about Doc giving Bernie Lynn three “green candies”? What do the men understand?

Chapter 10

A Hole in the Road to Paris

1. How does Cacciato escape from Stink?

2. What clue to the men find? What warning is given to them?

3. Why doesn’t Paul Berlin touch Sarkin Aung Wan?

4. What happens to the group? What might this symbolize?

Chapter 11

Fire in the Hole

1. Why do they have the village destroyed?

2. What is ironic about the line, “ ‘Kill it’, Paul Berlin said, but without malice.”

3. What is the reaction of the men to the destruction of the village?

4. Why do the men wait until nightfall to talk about Jim Pederson?

Chapter 12

The Observation Post

1. According to Paul Berlin, what is true courage?

2. What does he say about medals and his father? Why do you think this is important?

Chapter 13

Falling Through a Hole in the Road to Paris

1. For a moment, where does he imagine he is while he is falling? What might this suggest?

2. Who is Li Van Hgoc?

3. What is significant and symbolic about the questions he asks Li Van Hgoc?

4. What does Xa mean?

5. What does he mean by the phrase, “The land is your enemy”?

6. What are they seeing when they look through the periscope?

Chapter 14

Upon Almost Winning the Silver Star

1. What is Oscar frustrated about in the beginning of the section?

2. Why do you think Bernie Lynn goes down the hole?

Chapter 15

Tunneling Toward Paris

1. What is significant about what Li Van Hgoc says, “…things may be viewed from many angles. From down below, or from inside out, You often discover entirely new understandings.” How does this statement relate to Paul Berlin? How does it relate to the Vietnam War, as a whole?

2. Why is Li Van Hgoc in this area? What was his life like?

3. What might these connecting tunnels with no seeming way out represent?

4. What does Sarkin Aung Wan say about their current predicament?

5. What allusion is being made in this chapter?

Chapter 16

Pickup Games

1. When the firing and mortaring ends, initially, what do the men do and how do the men feel?

2. Why do the men begin to feel uneasy?

3. What hobby do the men take? Why is this important?

4. How do the men feel about Lieutenant Sidney Martin?

5. What does Doc mean when he talks about a “vacuum’?

6. What begins to happen to the men?

7. Why do Stink and Bernie Lynn get into a fight? What do the men do?

8. What does Oscar say about Lieutenant Sidney Martin?

9. Why does Paul Berlin think that winning is the “sweetest part” of playing basketball? How does this connect to the larger issue of this novel?

10. Why are the men relieved when Rudy Chassler hit the mine?

Chapter 17

Light at the End of the Tunnel to Paris

1. What does Sarkin Aung Wan look forward to about Paris?

2. What do they discuss that causes an issue between them?

3. What practical question does she ask him about their pursuit of Cacciato?

4. What is important about the last line in the chapter, “And he believed what he saw”?

Chapter 18

Prayers on the Road to Paris

1. Initially, where do they attempt to look for Cacciato?

2. What important questions does Paul Berlin ask about Cacciato and his motivations?

3. What does Paul Berlin mean when he says, “A case of gross tomfoolery”?

4. How does Cacciato disguise himself?

5. What does Cao Dai mean?

6. What happens to Paul Berlin when he attempts to apprehend Cacciato?

7. How does he feel afterward? To whom does he compare himself? What does this say about him (or both of them)?

Chapter 19

The Observation Post

1. Why is this a particularly dangerous time?

2. What does he say about some of the practical questions people may have about matters relating to their journey?

Chapter 20

Landing Zone Bravo

1. How does each soldier react during the flight?

2. What happens to the chopper as it attempts to land?

3. What is the importance of describing the gunners and their guns as one?

4. What does Pederson do to the Chinook and why does he do it?

5. What is the significance of personifying the Chinook copter?

6. In what way is his death both tragic and ironic?

Chapter 21

The Railroad to Paris

1. What does Lieutenant Corson say he likes about Paul Berlin?

2. What piece of truth is there when the Lieutenant says that they have been kidnapped?

3. What does Paul Berlin say about Cacciato and responsibility?

4. What do the men do while inspecting the train? How does this make Paul Berlin feel? In what way might this relate to the Vietnam War, as a whole?

5. What do the men find at the end of the chapter?

Chapter 22

What They Were or Claimed to Be

1. Characterize the men by who they are and who they claim to be:

Eddie Lazzutti

Oscar Johnson

Jim Pederson

Stink Harris

Lieutenant Corson

Doc Peret

Ready Mix

Chapter 23

Asylum on the Road to Paris

1. What happens to Lieutenant Corson in Delhi?

2. Characterize Hamijolli Chand. What does she think about the television?

3. What does Lieutenant Corson say is the Problem with Nam and the fighting? What does he say is lacking?

4. What does Paul Berlin do during his free time? What might these snapshots symbolize?

5. What does he think and worry about at the end of the chapter? Why is this significant?

Chapter 24

Calling Home

1. What is Eddie’s phone call like?

2. What has happened back home while he has been fighting in Vietnam?

3. What thoughts does Paul Berlin have?

4. What memories does he recount? Why is this important?

5. In what way does the chapter end sadly?

6. In what way is what Oscar says particularly important?

Chapter 25

The Way It Mostly Was

1. What does Oscar say about Lieutenant Martin?

2. In what ways are the marching men similar to yet different from each other?

3. What problems does Lieutenant Sidney Martin say he has?

4. What does he say about the lives of the men? What do you think about this attitude?

5. What does Paul Berlin focus on during his climb? Why?

6. What does Lieutenant Martin believe about war?

7. What is the difference between the way Lieutenant Martin sees Paul Berlin and the way Paul Berlin sees himself?

8. What is significant about the last line in the chapter?

Chapter 26

Repose on the Road to Paris

1. How do Paul Berlin and Sarkin Aung Wan spend their time during the days?

2. How has Lieutenant Corson changed during his time in Delhi?

3. How does Doc Peret feel about the Lieutenant?

4. What does Oscar say at the end of the chapter?

5. What do the men do at the end of the chapter?

Chapter 27

Flights of Imagination

1. What is the origin of the phrase, “World’s Greatest Lake Country”?

2. What is the mayor’s response when Paul Berlin asks him to tell him his “history”?

Chapter 28

The Observation Post

1. What “history” does Paul Berlin recount in this chapter?

Chapter 29

Atrocities on the Road to Paris

1. What does Doc say is the cause of the Lieutenant’s sickness?

2. How does Paul Berlin, “who enjoyed the peace” begin to feel?

3. Describe the “justice” meted out in the town square.

4. Why is the boy so concerned with the fly as opposed to what is about to happen?

5. What does Stink Harris want that leads to their arrest?

6. How do the men explain their presence to Captain Fahyi Rhallon?

7. What lie does Doc Peret make up?

8. Analyze the conversation Captain Fahyi Rhallon has with Doc Peret about war. What does the Captain think has been a hinderance to the United States’ success?

9. Where does Paul Berlin imagine he is? How does this relate to the core of this novel?

10. What does the Captain say about the boy in the square?

11. What effect does the mention of Billy Boy Watkins have on Paul Berlin? What does Sarkin Aung Wan say about the story?

Chapter 30

The Observation Post

1. How does Paul Berlin attempt to separate illusion from reality?

2. What is the trick? What does this relate to?

Chapter 31

Night March

1. What are the conflicting feelings of the men?

2. What are some of the tricks used to keep the men from thinking?

3. What vow does he make to himself regarding the other men? Why does he do this?

4. What does he say makes him different from Billy Boy?

5. What is important about the way Cacciato is characterized?

6. How does Billy Boy die? What is tragic about the circumstances around which he dies?

7. What reaction does Paul Berlin have? Why does he react this way?

8. Why does Cacciato say Paul Berlin will be fine?

Chapter 32

The Observation Post

1. What does he feel about Billy Boy’s death? Why is it necessary to think about it in such terms?

Chapter 33

Outlawed on the Road to Paris

1. Why are the men arrested again?

2. In what way is this situation vastly different from the first?

3. What are the charges?

4. What does Captain Rhallon say they should pray for? Why is this significant in terms of both Cacciato and the Vietnam War, as a whole?

5. Where does Paul Berlin imagine he is, at times?

6. What happens to the men at the end of the chapter? Why must they repeat aloud what is said to them?

Chapter 34

Lake Country

1. What do the men do when Lieutenant Sidney Martin wants them to investigate the tunnel? Why?

2. What is Cacciato doing while the men debate?

3. What does Oscar imply? Why do they touch the grenade?

Chapter 35

World’s Greatest Lake Country

1. What might be signified by Cacciato fishing in the crater?

2. How is Cacciato’s face described?

3. Why does Cacciato need to touch the grenade? How does Paul Berlin reason with him?

4. How does Paul Berlin view himself?

Chapter 36

Flights of Imagination

1. How does each man react to the “inevitable”?

2. Again, where does Paul Berlin’s attention revert?

3. What happens that leads to their escape?

4. How does Paul Berlin feel while he is running? What larger idea does this relate to?

5. What “ambush” occurs? How do they survive it?

6. What “two spots” is Paul Berlin between?

7. What “sad thing” happens to Lieutenant Martin? Besides the last chapter, in what way has this event been foreshadowed?

Chapter 37

How the Land Was

1. How does Paul Berlin feel about the land?

2. What are the paddies? What are the hedgerows?

3. What does Paul Berlin notice is missing from the landscape? Why might this be? How does this relate to the “unreality of reality”?

4. Why is he “unamazed” by what he sees in Chu Lai?

5. Why doesn’t he think beyond Paris?

Chapter 38

On the Lam to Paris

1. In what way does Sarkin Aung Wan help Lieutenant Corson? What does she say about leadership?

2. Why does Paul Berlin feel “understanding” towards Stink Harris? How does this contrast somewhat to the Stink Harris we have seen so far?

Chapter 39

The Things They Didn’t Know

1. How does Stink Harris use the English-Vietnamese dictionary the men give to him?

2. What does Paul Berlin say happens as a result of “not knowing the people”?

3. How does Paul Berlin feel as he sees the children? What does he want to say?

4. Why does he say he went to war?

5. According to the major, what are they fighting this war?

6. In what way is the Vietnam War different from the other wars?

Chapter 40

By a Stretch of the Imagination

1. Where does Paul Berlin revert back to yet again?

2. What are the pastimes of all armies? What does this reveal about Paul Berlin and the desires of other soldiers as well?

3. What does Paul Berlin wonder? Why do you think he wonders that?

4. What does the young woman in the van think of them?

5. In what way does she say they are the same? Why is this ridiculous?

6. How does Paul Berlin feel at the end of the chapter?

7. What is meant by the phrase, “He felt he was riding on ice.”

Chapter 41

Getting Shot

1. Where did the nickname “Buff” originate?

2. What does Paul Berlin remember? How do the two memories muddle together?

3. Why does he feel relief?

4. What does Cacciato do that no one else wants to do?

5. What does Oscar say the lesson is?

Chapter 42

The Observation Post

1. What does Paul Berlin say about war stories and lessons? Why is this significant?

2. What does he wonder at the end of the chapter?

Chapter 43

The Peace of Paris

1. Why does Paul Berlin allow the rain to wash over him while on the train?

2. What is the significance of the repetition of the phrase, “He believes what he sees.”

3. What does Oscar mean when he says, “That’s the game. Us or him.”

4. What does Paul Berlin say about peace?

5. What does Sarkin Aung Wan say Paul Berlin speaks of?

6. How does this relate to the events in the novel so far?

7. What does Sarkin Aung Wan want him to do? Why does he say he cannot? In what way is this significant and ironic?

8. What does she say he is afraid of?

9. “Paris is not a place. It is a \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_.” What does this mean?

10. Analyze the conversation between Paul Berlin and Lieutenant Corson.

11. How does the chapter end?

Chapter 44

The End of the Road to Paris

1. What does Paul Berlin wish?

2. What makes Lietenant Corson and Sarkin Aung Wan different from the others? Explain the many significant differences.

3. What does Sarkin Aung Wan say about being realistic? In what way is this ironic?

4. Where does Paul Berlin find Cacciato? How does he look? What is he doing? What is significant about describing him in this way?

5. Analyze the scene with the spotlight.

Chapter 45

The Observation Post

1. What do we learn is the “reality” of the incident with Cacciato? How does this contrast with another reality?

2. What does he say “remained”? Why is this important?

Chapter 46

Going After Cacciato

1. What happens while Paul Berlin is on “watch”? What might this reflect?

2. What does Oscar say to/about Paul Berlin? What might this reflect?

3. What happens to Paul berlin in present time during a supposed battle?

4. How does he feel?

5. What happened to Cacciato?

6. What are the last words spoken about Cacciato? Why is this important?

Final Paper Name\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

English 11 SCALE Date \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

The Situation:

You have just read three very different works of literature-different characters, different settings, different events. However, what links these three novels is the motif of the journey, a journey in search of wholeness. In The Road, a father and his boy wander through a blasted world, the father desperately trying to balance love with self-preservation. In Going After Cacciato, the men journey through the miasma of war in an attempt to attain their dream of peace. In Charming Billy, a family tries to retrospectively journey through Billy’s life, searching for an answer to the self-destructive darkness that dwelled within him.

Your Task:

In a four to six page paper, develop a thesis based on your reading and understanding of these novels. Develop a thesis of your own choosing-preferably focusing on the motif of the journey as we have discussed in class.

**Requirements**:

-Length of the paper should be four to six pages.

-Papers should be typed, 12 point standard font, double spaced, one inch margins on all sides.

-A cover is unnecessary; instead, list in the upper left-hand corner of the first page, your name, your instructor's name, the course, and the date. Again, be sure to use double-spaced text. Double space again and center the title. Don't underline your title or put it in quotation marks; write the title in Title Case, not in all capital letters. Additionally, all pages should be numbered with your last name in the upper right-hand corner, one-half inch from the top and flush with the right margin. You need not number the first page.

-All citations must be completed in MLA format. Please refer to your MLA packet for proper citation format.

-The primary source requirement is **two** non-internet sources; and one reputable internet source must be used.

-All papers must have a minimum **four citations** (in this case, *direct quotes*). You may paraphrase information, but make sure it is cited properly.

-You must include a Works Cited page, which should be the last page of your paper.

- All papers must be submitted to www.turnitin.com