

23/24 August 2016



Stephen Spender (1909-1995) in Berlin, 1934.

image from http://www.thetimes.co.uk/tto/multimedia/archive/00350/46711120_SPENDER_350757c.jpg

Greetings, Wise Fools—

As always, please read the entire class plan, open up the documents you will need for class, and begin to work on the first activity!

1. WEDGE #1—The Stephen Spender poem, “My Parents Kept Me From Children Who Were Rough,” describes a difficult social situation, right? The start of each new school year is typically full of tricky social readjustments. Write about a recent moment in your own experience in which you either experienced a complicated social interaction OR a recent moment when you witnessed someone else having a bit of a rough time. Tell a story! While drafting, try to provide specific details that would allow an audience to experience the events vicariously.

2. Confirming the Homework Paragraph—I’ll let you know which docs arrived at Turnitin.com in time to meet the deadline.

3. Small Group Discussion—In small groups, we'll collaborate to make a list of reasons why teachers and parents and others, all of whom have our best interests at heart, keep insisting that we read "quality literature."

4. Whole Class Collaboration—We'll collect the results from the small groups into a larger document. I will play the part of your secretary and post the resulting document to Moodle.

5. Interlinear Reading of Spender Poem—In a large group, we'll take a run through the poem, identifying key elements and points of interest. Posted to our Moodle page you will find a txt version of the poem that will allow you to take notes derived from our discussion.

6. WEDGE #2—We'll tackle a new prompt to generate a story based in personal experience.

7. Homework Preview—We'll make sure we know what we need to do next, and, time permitting, get started on the work.

We've got a packed agenda, so let's get going!

Tappa! Tappa! Tappa!—
Mr. Leo

Homework:

Revise today's WEDGE #2.

Length: 500 words

Meet MLA format expectations.

Post the revision to Turnitin.com prior to the start of our next class.