

Workload for Year 11 (EF) English (Dörr)

Dear students,

Please make the best of the fact that schools are closed by working as much as possible on your English.

- Those of you who have the yellow and/or the white books to improve your English will have ample time to work in those and deal with their individual problems.
- EVERYONE has the *Context Starter* book, which also contains many language practice options on pp. 164-193; any of these will be valuable practice for you.
- Those who enjoy a more media-based approach should go to <https://www.br.de/telekolleg/faecher/englisch/index.html> or to <http://www.bbc.co.uk/worldservice/learningenglish/language/>. On the BBC website the videos and quizzes on English pronunciation are particularly recommended.
- Assignments dealing with *Notes from the Midnight Driver* can be found on the worksheets below. Do the tasks and note any problems or questions you might have. The test dealing with your reading comprehension of the novel will still be written when we see each other again.

If there are any problems with the assignments or urgent questions don't hesitate to contact me via e-mail: c.stephan.doerr@freenet.de. Please make sure you use this time given to you responsibly: Do your coursework and do everything to keep yourself and people around you healthy.

Best wishes and see you - sooner or later,

St. Dörr

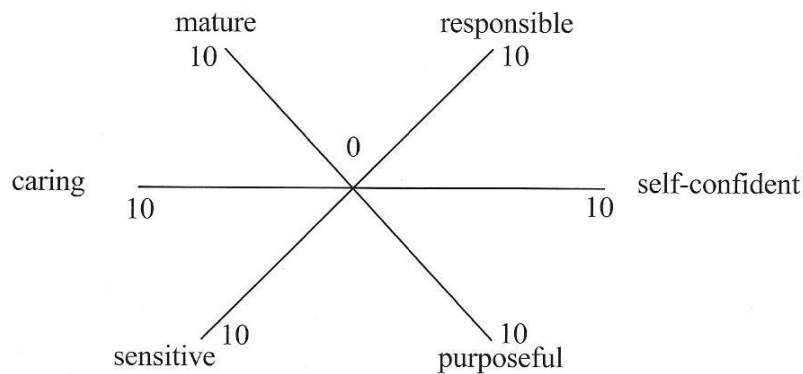
Tasks

1 Match the following adjectives with their definitions:

1. caring
2. mature
3. purposeful
4. responsible
5. self-confident
6. sensitive

a. reliable, trustworthy, sensible
b. willing and able to understand other people's feelings
c. sure of yourself
d. behaving sensibly and not childishly; behaving like an adult
e. showing interest in the wellbeing of other people
f. having clear goals you want to achieve

2 Based on what you have found out about Alex in the first eight chapters of the novel, decide how well-developed the qualities above are in him. Give him points from 0–10, with 0 meaning 'very little developed', and 10 meaning 'fully developed'. Enter your results in the spider diagram below, and connect the dots.



3 Give reasons for your decisions. For each adjective, write a few relevant sentences about Alex's character. You could start like this:
*In my opinion, Alex is very/not very **mature**. He ...*

Tasks

1 Spider Diagram

- a After reading the first eight chapters of the novel, you worked on a characterization of Alex using a spider web diagram. Now, after reading the entire novel, Alex’s character should be looked at again to see if he has undergone any changes. Take out the spider web diagram that you used in your first characterization of Alex. Now re-evaluate his character and enter your results in the spider web again.
- b Again, write sentences explaining each of your results. You can begin your sentences like this:

I think that now Alex is more/less mature, because ...

2 Novel of Initiation

- a Read the short text below.
- b Would you consider *Notes from the Midnight Driver* a novel of initiation? Give reasons.
- c Identify moments of epiphany in the novel.

Stories of Initiation

The term *initiation* means the introduction of a person into a certain group, and is often used to refer to the introduction of a young person into adulthood. In literature, the terms *story* or *novel of initiation* are used to describe a work whose topic is the development of a young person into adulthood. Another term used for this kind of story is a *coming-of-age story*. Very often, the transition to adulthood is brought about by a particular experience that makes the protagonist learn an important lesson, or see something more clearly all of a sudden. Such moments of insight are also called *epiphany*.

The story of initiation is a popular subgenre not only of the American short story. Famous examples are ‘Indian Camp’ by Ernest Hemingway (1924) and ‘Barn Burning’ by William Faulkner (1939), and, from outside the United States, ‘Araby’ by James Joyce (1914) and ‘The Garden Party’ by Katherine Mansfield (1922). The topic is also popular in novels, such as J.D. Salinger’s *The Catcher in the Rye* (1951), Paul Auster’s *Moon Palace* (1989) or Sue Monk Kidd’s *The Secret Life of Bees* (2002).