

A Prayer for Owen Meany **Essay Options (Due August 7th)**

Please indicate at the top of the first page, the letter of the option you have selected.

When you complete the reading of A Prayer for Owen Meany, review the essay options indicated below to select the prompt you will write on. These are former AP exam prompts and will provide you with some early experiences for May's exam. In the exam situation, you could anticipate approximately forty minutes to construct your response. Obviously, because this is being done outside of class, you may take as much time as necessary.

- A. In some novels or plays certain parallel or recurring events prove to be significant. In a well-written essay, describe the major similarities and differences in a sequence of parallel or recurring events in A Prayer for Owen Meany and discuss the significance of such events. Do not merely summarize the plot.

- B. An effective literary work does not merely stop or cease; it concludes. In the view of some critics, a work that does not provide the pleasure of significant closure had terminated with artistic fault. A satisfactory ending is not, however, always conclusive in every sense; significant closure may require the reader to abide with or adjust to ambiguity and uncertainty.

In a well-written essay, discuss the ending of A Prayer for Owen Meany. Explain precisely how and why the ending appropriately or inappropriately concludes the novel. Do not merely summarize the plot.