

For Monday, November 14, 2011

Arcadia is full of references to historical figures and phenomena that are not fully explained, but which contribute in important ways to the humor and to the play's exploration of its themes. Pick two references--one scientific, and one literary--that are unfamiliar to you and do some basic (Wikipedia is ok) research into them, then write up your initial thoughts about how understanding each reference impacts your understanding of the text.

Due: Post your Seminar Paper by 9 am Monday November 14 to the forum appropriate to your seminar/date.

For Thursday, November 17, 2011

There are several advantages of Stoppard's parallel plot structure: one of them is that the juxtaposition of two sets of characters living in two different historical moments allows Stoppard to deepen our understanding of certain issues and questions raised in the play. Provide a brief reading of a passage (or related passages) in which the juxtaposition of plot elements gives particular prominence to an issue or question.

Due: Post your Seminar Paper by 9 am Thursday November 17 to the forum appropriate to your seminar/date