In 750-1,000 words, write about your response to Pynchon’s novel. Again, you may choose your own focus, or you may riff on one of these prompts.

Is Oedipa liberated or burdened by her quest? Does she escape her unsatisfactory suburban existence, or does she merely exchange it for a different kind of trap?

Published a year after the assassination of John F. Kennedy, the book engages with conspiracies, secret societies, and the general mistrust of authority. What do you make of the politics of the novel?

What do you make of the style of the novel? At times, densely allusive and erudite, and at other times, cartoonish and broadly satirical, it plays games with the reader’s expectations of narrative and representation. Does the word play serve a purpose here, or is it just mere performance?

Discuss the novel’s representation of alternative channels of communication.