

Incoming Senior Advanced Placement  
Summer Reading Requirements 2020

Welcome to AP Literature and Composition. We will have a very busy year and it will begin in earnest this summer. This packet will provide you with everything you need to complete your summer reading assignments, including due dates and how to contact me with any questions or concerns you may have. I advise you to purchase the paper texts so that you can annotate right in the margins of the books; the three texts can be borrowed from your local library if you prefer that option.

**Works:**

<i>Things Fall Apart</i>	Chinua Achebe
<i>How to Read Literature Like a Professor</i>	Thomas Foster
<i>A Lesson Before Dying</i>	Ernest Gaines

Keep in mind why you are reading. You are not reading to produce a paper for your instructor. You are reading for you. AP is much different from any other level of English. You will only get out of it what you put into it. Much work and thought is independent. Few, if any, quizzes, projects, or homework grades will be offered. Assignments are short and long essays, all of which will constitute major grades. By definition, AP is equivalent to a college freshman literature and composition course. You will read the novels or not; you will provide strongly edited essays or not; you will succeed when you do, but the onus is on you.

Summer Reading Requirements

Because summer reading is an integral part of the AP course, and summer can slip by so quickly, there will be four major assignments with various components due sporadically over the summer. This will prevent you from cramming everything miserably into your last week of summer break. It goes without saying that any assignment indicating the use of Spark notes or any other online summary site will receive a 0.

Be aware of your summer plans. The due dates are “no later than” dates. If you want to complete all of your work before August to allow yourself a few weeks of freedom before school starts, that is fine. If you know you are going to be away over one of the due dates, please make sure you think ahead to submit it early.

On the following pages, there are directions regarding the submission, content of each summer assignment, and some basic reminders about writing, in case you forget as soon as you turn in the last paper of your junior year!

***AP REQUIRES YOU TO BE A SCHOLAR WILLING TO DEVELOP SCHOLARLY HABITS***

## Assignment Details

### **Part One:**

#### **Vocabulary.com... Literary Terminology**

##### **Assignment:**

Part of being successful AP is becoming comfortable recognizing literary techniques in prose and poetry. To help you to become familiar with the plethora of literary terms you may encounter along the way, please complete the vocabulary.com assignment titled "Literary Terminology 103." You must attain the level of mastery for all words. When you finish, please take the quiz as well.

**Assessment:** The completion of the vocabulary practice is worth 10 points, as it is extensive. The quiz will be worth 15 points.

**Due Date: Friday June 26, 2020**

### **Part Two:**

#### ***How to Read Literature Like a Professor***

##### **Assignment:**

This is a lighthearted and entertaining work will introduce you to themes that all pieces of literature share. We will reference this text during the year in combination with all of the major works we study.

Summarize each of the 26 chapters in the text. (See classroom for template and formatting.) These summaries should be in complete sentences and will force you to condense key ideas. Additionally, remember to cite your source using proper MLA format.

PLAN YOUR TIME. Put due dates on your personal calendar to spread out the workload. It will seem less daunting and will make the reading more enjoyable for you.

**Assessment:** This assignment is worth 26 points. Please do not underestimate the importance of this, as it will provide a reference for you throughout the school year.

**Due Date: Friday, July 10, 2020**

### **Part Three:**

#### ***A Lesson Before Dying***

##### **Assignment:**

1. Read and annotate the text. Complete a Major Works Data Packet (included at the end of this packet as well as in google classroom if you prefer to type.) for your reference. It will be easier for you to complete this as you read rather than after you finish reading the text. **This is very important for your preparation for the AP test in May.** If you are using a borrowed text, use sticky notes to mark important passages or key events. Keep in mind that the final words/scene of each chapter are key in this particular text.
2. Apply *How to Read Literature Like a Professor* by making specific connections from the novel to **six** different chapters of this text. (Template is included in classroom.)
  1. Make a numbered list of these six connections.

2. Provide a direct quotation from the novel, citing page numbers and explaining the connection fully in 3-5 sentences. Your application will be similar to the literary examples Foster uses to make his points.
3. Include MLA citations for both texts.

To reframe it, imitate Foster's explanations using *ALBD* as your example. What passages from *ALBD* can be used to prove the points that Foster makes in his text? Your objective is to demonstrate your understanding of Foster's text using a mature writing style appropriate for an AP class.

**Assessment:** This assignment is worth 24 points.

**Due Date: Friday, August 7, 2020**

**Assignment Four:**

*Things Fall Apart*

**Assignment:**

1. Read and annotate *TFA* and complete a Major Works Data Packet for your reference. Do not underestimate the importance of this. Yes, it is tedious, but it will save you time in May when you are preparing for the AP exam.
2. Complete an Excerpt Journal for this piece. (See classroom for the template and example.) **NO OUTSIDE SOURCES SHOULD BE USED.**
  1. Choose four excerpts from this piece that illustrate important literary devices used in the text, including characterization, style, symbol, theme, etc.
  2. Type the excerpt in full, including MLA citation.
  3. After each passage, discuss the excerpt's place within the text and why you think it is important. You should always think of why the passage is important in reference to the novel as a whole. Identify the literary devices used and explain why/how the devices are significant in the passage. Each discussion should be one paragraph long. Be concise and get to your point in an eloquent manner. **Do not simply summarize the passage.** You must weave in textual evidence into the paragraph as well.

**Assessment:** This assignment is worth 25 points.

**Due Date: Friday, August 28, 2020**

**Contact Information:**

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During the summer, I usually check my email every other day, if not daily. It may be 1-2 days before you hear back from me. I am also going on vacation, and will not answer emails during that time. If I do not get back to you immediately, don't panic! I promise I will return your email as soon as I can.