



Classroom
Code: eqkxbgv

Advanced Placement Literature and Composition Summer Reading & Writing for 2023

Welcome to AP English Literature and Composition!

Summer reading and writing serve several purposes, and the most important may be making a deliberate and thoughtful first impression. This assignment is also critical for adding to your arsenal of works to draw upon for successful participation in the essay questions on the AP exam. Interacting with rigorous texts this summer will help you keep the critical reading and analytical writing skills you have developed thus far sharp. Seize this opportunity.

Part I: Read *How to Read Literature Like a Professor* by Thomas C. Foster

Due: First Day of Class

As you read *How to Read Literature*, make one note card for each of the first 26 chapters. Your notecards (size 4X6), should include key definitions, ideas, and/or quotes. The purpose of the index card is to limit what you write down so that you summarize and synthesize the information. You will turn in these notecards on the first day of school as proof of effort, but you will also use it to support further writing in class. Make sure they are useful for both purposes. **If you will need assistance with acquiring a copy of this text, please see Ms. Tennant before school breaks for the summer.**

Part II: Read a work of literature

Due: First Day of Class

Choose a piece of literature from the attached list to experience as a reader. As you read, mark the book up. Explore, question, connect, trace patterns and capture your reactions. You may do this in the work itself, or on sticky notes attached to the pages. For this assignment, do not use an electronic version of your book. You will need to turn in your ***annotated*** copy of the book, so if you are working from a borrowed book, make sure you will have it the first week of school with any notes properly placed.

When School Begins

You will be tasked with an in-class writing assignment the first week of school to demonstrate your depth of understanding of both Foster and the novel or play you choose to read.

Do not delay. Start your summer reading early and *take time to enjoy the reading*.

Contact me as soon as possible with any problems, questions, or concerns:

claudette.tennant@opelikaschools.org.

Summer Reading List for AP Literature & Composition

This list consists of titles frequently referenced on AP Literature and Composition exams. Select a book that you have *not previously read*. You may choose a book that is not on this list **IF** you seek and receive prior approval from Mrs. Tennant (claudette.tennant@opelikaschools.org) **by July 1**.

You should speak with your parents or caregivers about your reading selection. Some of the books on this list may not share the values taught in some homes. If this is a concern, a talk will prevent any future misunderstanding. Check out book descriptions and summaries on Amazon and Goodreads as well as free book reviews from the *New York Times*.

All the King's Men by Robert Penn Warren

Mansfield Park Jane Austen

All the Light We Cannot See by Anthony Doerr

The Mayor of Casterbridge by Thomas Hardy

All the Pretty Horses by Cormac McCarthy

Obasan by Joy Kogawa

As I Lay Dying by William Faulkner

Olive Kitteridge by Elizabeth Strout

The Awakening by Kate Chopin

Portrait of the Artist as a Young Man by James Joyce

Beloved by Toni Morrison

Poisonwood Bible by Barbara Kingsolver

Bless Me, Ultima by Rudolfo Anaya

A Prayer for Owen Meany by John Irving

★ *The Botanist's Daughter* by Kayte Nunn

The Remains of the Day by Kazuo Ishiguro

Ceremony by Leslie Marmon Silko

The Sympathizer by Viet Thanh Nguyen

The Color Purple by Alice Walker

Wuthering Heights by Emily Bronte

Crime and Punishment by Fyodor Dostoevsky

A Visit from the Goon Squad by Jennifer Egan

East of Eden by John Steinbeck

Ethan Frome by Edith Wharton

The Goldfinch by Donna Tartt

The Hours by Michael Cunningham

Invisible Man by Ralph Ellison

Jude the Obscure by Thomas Hardy

Lincoln in the Bardo by George Saunders

★ This title is the Common Reader for the National English Honor Society's scholarship competitions for 2023-2024.