

Doral Academy High School

Summer Reading – Advanced Placement Courses

English Language & Composition (11th Gr.)/ English Literature & Composition (12th Gr.)

Congratulations on your decision to take Advanced Placement Language and Composition or English Literature and Composition. These are college level courses that will require commitment and hard work. You will take an AP Exam at the end of the year that could potentially grant you college English credit.

All of these books are available in local libraries and bookstores. If possible, I suggest you purchase them. We will refer to all three books throughout the year so having your own copy to annotate and highlight will be convenient. Often, you can purchase these books at a discount at used bookstores. Summer Reading counts towards your first quarter grade. The titles that you ultimately select to read are considered outside independent reading, however choose titles that you will thoroughly read and analyze, because you will be expected to know those titles in depth.

Due the First Day You Arrive to Class! Students must keep a brief, informal record of each book read. This will take the form of a Reading Journal. (See format of Reading Journal on the reverse side.) The purpose of the record is to allow the student to refresh his memory of the book in preparation for discussion and formal, written summer reading assignments in August. Key component as an AP Student is that your Journal needs to demonstrate close reading, careful in-depth analysis and reflection.

Students should keep a record of other books read to include them in their AP Reading Log.

READING JOURNAL – Due first day of class in August.

Design a reading schedule and deadlines! Write it down on page one! While reading each of the summer requirements, note quotes that follow a theme, then list in a double entry reading log format, as reviewed below: A Separate Journal is to be submitted for each title. Therefore you will have **Three Journals**. You may place them in one binder separated by Dividers. The assignment must be typed.

1. Create two equally long columns. Label the left hand column “Quotes” and the right hand column “Connection.”
2. As you are reading, choose 5 quotes which you feel are significant (in terms of key ideas, a recurring or important theme). Note: Do not use quotes from SparkNotes.com, Pinkmonkey.com or any other website as you will be required to submit your journals to turnitin.com.
3. On the right column, reflect on what ties the quotes to one theme or idea.
4. If possible, join with others through reading meetings, email conversations, chat lines or blogs (weblog or online diary) to discuss:
 - points you are pondering while reading
 - expanding your understanding of the books and finding more enjoyment in the literature you read
 - Keep records of these discussions. If a film is available compare the film and note what is left out of the film compared to the reading.

5. To submit your reading journals on your return to school in August, bind them in a folder with your name and date clearly identified on the front of the folder. Include any email or chat transcriptions with your journals. Neatness counts.

The books on the Summer Reading List were selected because they appear on the AP Literature Exam or are about the AP experience. Reading these books will help prepare you for the exams and you might even enjoy them.

Evaluation: Selection and tracking of quotes; Depth of thought on link of quotes to theme/idea and Response to literature.

ESSAY RESPONSE

In addition to your journals, you will also be required to type two additional 5-7 paragraph essays. Using the provided prompts, choose two summer reading books and answer 2 of the prompts completely. Be sure to take your time and fully understand what each prompt is asking. I advise that you read all the prompts before choosing the two you will write on.

Determine what you are being asked to do and how you are being asked to accomplish it. For example, if you are asked to write about the effect of the changing attitude of the narrator in a passage by analyzing tone, syntax, and diction, then that is what you do. Identify the changing attitude. What is this change; what purpose does it serve in the piece? Then, how do the tone, syntax, and diction show you this change? Finally, how does this change affect the passage overall? What effect does this change have upon the narrator or the reader?

You must use a different story to answer each prompt. Be sure to label on the top of your paper which prompt you are choosing.

PROMPT ONE

Often in literature, situations reach a “point of no return,” a point after which the life of a character can never be the same. Choose one novel or play in which a character reaches this point and write an essay explaining the situation and its effect on the character, the other characters, and the theme. Do not merely summarize the plot.

PROMPT TWO

Authors often create a character who refuses to compromise their principles. These characters may be heroic, tragic, or merely misguided. Choose a novel or a play in which a character declines to compromise a deeply-held belief. Identify the character, the principle in which the character believes, and show, by specific reference, the action the character took to uphold this principle and the outcome of the action. Finally, evaluate the characters decision to show if it is heroic, tragic, or misguided. Do not merely summarize the plot.

PROMPT THREE

Margaret Thatcher, former Prime Minister of Great Britain, once said, “In politics, if you want anything said, ask a man; if you want anything done, ask a woman.”

Novels and plays often portray circumstances that reflect this statement. Select a novel or a play that includes a situation in which a woman is the strongest character, best able to carry out necessary action. In a well-written, focused essay, discuss how this idea contributes to the meaning as well as the outcome of the work as a whole. Do not merely summarize the plot.

PROMPT FOUR

Many plays and novels that focus upon the courtship or marriage of a man and a woman include a second pair who help to define the central figures. Write a well-written essay in which you discuss how the secondary man and woman illuminate the central characters of the work. Do not merely summarize the plot.

PROMPT FIVE

Injustice, either social or personal, is a common theme in literature. Choose a novel or a play in which injustice is important. Write an essay in which you clearly define the nature of the injustice and discuss the techniques the author employs to elicit sympathy for its victim or victims. Do not merely summarize the plot.

PROMPT SIX

Often in fiction or drama, an inanimate object will play an important part in the development of the work. The property will often have a significant role in the plot, and it may also be used to reveal a character, to convey a symbolic meaning, or to perform some other purpose of the novelist or playwright. Choose a novel or a play in which an object serves several purposes, and write an essay in which you discuss how the author makes use of the property. Do not merely summarize the plot.

PROMPT SEVEN

In plays or novels, the flight from guilt takes many forms. A chief character’s attempt to find some kind of freedom from guilt may become a conscious or an unconscious motivation in his or her life.

Choose an important character in a novel or play who attempts to deal with guilt, and discuss how this motive affects the action, and how it determines meaning in the work as a whole.

PROMPT EIGHT

Authors use many devices to develop their characters. In some situations, they use dialogue and description. In other cases, writers make use of other literary elements to make their character come alive. Names, nonverbal communication, and small episodes all may tell the reader a great deal about a character personality.

Using a novel or play, discuss the ways the author develops the characters. Do not merely summarize the plot.

Once again, I welcome you to the AP English program. Have a great summer!

AP English Language & Composition (11th Grade) Choose THREE from the list below

- Narrative of the Life of Frederick Douglass - Frederick Douglass
- 1984 - George Orwell
- Slaughterhouse-Five - Kurt Vonnegut
- The Things They Carried - Tim O'Brien
- Crime and Punishment - Fyodor Dostoevsky
- Inherit the Wind – Jerome Lawrence and R.L. Lee
- Twelve Angry Men – Reginald Rose
- Fathers and Sons - Fyodor Dostoevsky
- Walden - Henry David Thoreau
- The Joy Luck Club - Amy Tan
- Farewell to Manzanar – Jeanne Houston
- Snow Falling on Cedars – David Guterson
- As I Lay Dying - William Faulkner
- Catch-22 - Joseph Heller
- Brave New World - Aldous Huxley
- The Giver - Lois Lowry
- Behold a Pale Horse – William Cooper
- Anthem - Ayn Rand
- Cry, the Beloved Country – Alan Paton
- Night - Elie Wiesel
- All Quiet on the Western Front – Eric Maria Remarque
- Silent Spring - Rachel Carson
- Thirteen Days: A Memoir of the Cuban Missile Crisis - Arthur Schlesinger, Jr.
- The Kite Runner - Khaled Hosseini
- The Chocolate Wars - Robert Cormier
- A Long Way Gone Memoirs of a Boy Soldier - Ishmael Beah
- Of Mice and Men - John Steinbeck
- The Crucible, Arthur Miller
- Death of a Salesman, Arthur Miller
- Scarlett Letter by Nathaniel Hawthorne

Also purchase: “The Lively Art of Writing” by Lucille Vaughan Payne (Best to order online)

Barron’s EZ-101 Study Keys - American Literature ISBN#0-08120-4694-3

Beyond this list we would encourage you to read American literature and nonfiction. Additionally AP Language students should be well-read in current events. I would recommend that you read from time to time articles from The New York Times, USA Today and other competent new sources.

AP English Literature & Composition (12th Grade) Choose **THREE from the list below**

- Wuthering Heights – Emily Bronte
- The Sun Also Rises – Ernest Hemingway
- Good Earth by Pearl S. Buck
- Passage to India – E. M. Forester
- A Room With a View – E. M. Forester
- Things Fall Apart - Chinua Achebe
- Heart of Darkness – Joseph Conrad
- Pride and Prejudice – Jane Austen
- The Awakening – Kate Chopin
- Their Eyes Were Watching God – Zora Neale Hurston
- The Metamorphosis – Franz Kafka
- Beloved – Toni Morrison
- The Bell-Jar - Sylvia Plath
- A Separate Peace – John Knowles
- Candide – Voltaire
- A Catcher in the Rye – J.D. Salinger
- Invisible Man – Ralph Ellison
- The Color Purple – Alice Walker
- The Picture of Dorian Gray – Oscar Wilde
- A Tale of Two Cities – Charles Dickens
- A Farewell to Arms – Ernest Hemingway
- The Sun Also Rises – Ernest Hemingway
- The Old Man and the Sea – Ernest Hemingway
- The Grapes of Wrath – John Steinbeck
- The Pearl – John Steinbeck
- The Picture of Dorian Gray – Oscar Wilde

Beyond this list we would encourage you to read British literature, works of fiction and non-fiction, drama and poetry.

AP English Literature students also need familiarity with Greek Mythology and the Bible. It is also strongly recommended that students have familiarity with Shakespeare, particularly MacBeth, Hamlet and Othello.

Also purchase: Barron's EZ-101 Study Keys – English Literature ISBN#0-8120-4600-5