

AP English Literature and Composition

2018-2019 Summer Reading Assignment

English Teacher: Mr. Berger
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Purpose: The purpose of summer reading assignment is complex:

- To help build confidence and competence as readers of complex texts
- To give you, when you enter the class in the fall, an immediate basis for discussion of literature- elements like theme, narrative, viewpoint, symbolism, plot structure, etc.
- To set up a basis for comparison with other works we will read during the year
- To provide you with the beginnings of a repertoire of works you can write about on the AP Lit exam next spring
- Last but not least to enrich your mind and stimulate your imagination

GRADING: This will be your first test grade for Quarter 1. It will be graded based upon your deeper insights on how literary/rhetorical devices as well as excerpted evidence add meaning to the text. Surface level interpretations as well as those found on websites such as Sparknotes are not considered 'A' level work. You will be rewarded for your own thoughts and ideas.

PLAGIARISM: Any student found to have used another person's ideas or words including classmates or online resources will receive a zero for the assignment as well a parent conference once school begins.

HEADING: Please use this MLA format heading for all papers.

Name
AP English Literature and Composition
Mr. Berger
(Title)
Date

ASSIGNMENT I: Write Your Reader Profile

Emailed. Due BEFORE school starts: Before you begin any of the reading for this summer, craft a well written profile of yourself as a reader. *What are your strengths and weaknesses in reading, prose and poetry? What purposes does reading serve for you? What are your passions and peeves?* Be as honest and forthcoming as you possibly can be. This portion of the assignment should be no more than 200 words. Email your profile to iberger@pasco.k12.fl.us. The title for the heading is *Reader Profile*.

The assignments below are due the first day of school. Bring your typed or handwritten copies to class. No work will be accepted late.

ASSIGNMENT II: Reading #1

Typed. Title for the heading of this assignment is *Bird by Bird*.

Reading: *Bird by Bird: Some Instructions on Writing and Life* by Anne Lamott.

Purpose: By you seeing how writers make decisions, the choices the masters make become clearer to analyze. It makes you better readers as well.

Tasks: (1) Annotate this book, paying close attention to chapter 2. Annotations will be checked. (2) For each chapter, write down 2 – 3 of your big “takeaways,” things that resonate with YOU and will help YOU as a writer.

ASSIGNMENT III: Reading #2

Read one book from the reading list found at the end of this handout to **annotate**. These works are of “recognized Literary Merit” and come from the College Board. (Essay during the first week of school on your chosen book).

Purpose: To add to your reading experiences and to develop your critical thinking skills. Thus, do not choose a book on this list that you have already read! In preparation for the AP Literature exam you will need to be familiar with a wide range of literature. The more you read books of literary merit, the more prepared you will be.

Annotation can unlock meaning and help you understand a text better. Use the following guidelines:

Ideas for Annotating Literature

“Every Text is a lazy machine asking the reader to do some of its work.” – Novelist Umberto Eco

- Avoid simply highlighting. If you DO use a highlighter, make a key for what those colors mean.
- Circle, bracket, asterisk, and punctuate in the margins.
- Write questions and make comments.
- Engage with the text in such a way that you will remember what you’re looking at. (This is why highlighting by itself is so passive—you rarely ever remember WHY you highlighted something.)
- Look for patterns and label them (motifs, diction, syntax, symbols, images, and behavior, whatever).
- Mark passages that seem to jump out at you because they suggest an important idea or theme of for any other reason (an arresting figure of speech or image an intriguing sentence pattern, a striking example of foreshadowing, a key moment in the plot, a bit of dialogue that reveals character, clues about the setting etc.).
- At the ends of chapters or sections write a bulleted list of key plot events. This not only forces you think about what happened, see the novel as whole, and identify patterns, but you create a convenient record of the whole plot.
- Circle words you want to learn or words that jump out at you for some reason.

Choose ONE (or other of literary merit):

Crime and Punishment by Fyodor Dostoevsky
The Heart of Darkness by Joseph Conrad
Moby Dick by Herman Melville
One Hundred Years of Solitude by Gabriel Garcia Marquez
Jane Eyre by Charlotte Bronte
Song of Solomon by Toni Morrison
The Adventures of Huckleberry Finn by Mark Twain
The Awakening by Kate Chopin
Glass Menagerie by Tennessee Williams
Obasan by Joy Kogawa
Death of a Salesman by Arthur Miller
A Farewell to Arms by Ernest Hemingway
The Poisonwood Bible by Barbara Kingsolver
Animal Farm by George Orwell
Pride and Prejudice by Jane Austen

Great Expectations by Charles Dickens
Invisible Man by Ralph Ellison
Beloved by Toni Morrison
Billy Budd by Herman Melville
King Lear by Shakespeare
Wuthering Heights by Emily Bronte
As I Lay Dying by William Faulkner
Bless Me, Ultima by Rudolfo Anaya
The Mayor of Casterbridge by Thomas Hardy
All the Pretty Horses by Cormac McCarthy
Ethan Frome by Edith Wharton
Lord of the Flies by William Golding
1984 by George Orwell
The Stranger by Albert Camus
The Scarlet Letter by Nathaniel Hawthorne

Additional Reading: If you have not taken a Mythology class and/or have little knowledge of Greek/Roman mythology, obtain a copy of Edith Hamilton’s *Mythology* (from the library or bookstore) and familiarize yourself with the Greek and Roman gods, goddesses, and myths covered. Many works of literature assume knowledge of this subject.