

Summer Reading for AP Literature

In preparation for taking AP Literature next year, you have three reading assignments to complete over the summer. You will need to secure your own copies of your summer reading books. You will likely want to purchase hard copies so that you can annotate for later reference in class. Downloading books on an e-reader is also an option. If you choose to borrow books or check them out from a library, make sure you can renew them to have access in class.

**** Required Reading Selection - *The Great Gatsby*, F. Scott Fitzgerald**

Though most of you have already read this novel in ninth grade, you likely have not read it with sufficient maturity to truly understand and appreciate it. While reading (or re-reading), annotate with the following conventions in mind so that you can discuss them in class. You should be prepared for *Gatsby* analysis in the first two weeks of school.

1. Allusions...to the bible, mythology, fairytales, etc.
2. Social class as a factor in the plot
3. Geography, weather, seasons as symbolic
4. Gender inequality
5. Issues of race
6. Unintended effects of Prohibition

****Required Reading Selection - *The Kite Runner*, Khaled Hosseini**

You will have your first open-ended AP timed writing on this novel within the first two weeks of school. There is also a multiple choice test on it within the first two weeks. You will need to thoroughly prepare the novel so that you will be able to write analytically on an AP prompt (not given before the timed writing).

****Additional Reading Selection - Choose ONE of the following novels:**

In our first unit of the year, we will explore common literary conventions employed by canonical writers. You will use your chosen text as the basis for a project where you will apply the common literary devices to your novel. While reading your chosen novel, consider theme and literary devices used to convey that theme.

The Hate U Give by Angie Thomas

Less by Andrew Sean Greer

All the Light We Cannot See by Anthony Doerr

Sing, Unburied, Sing by Jesmyn Ward

The Gentleman from Moscow by Amor Towles

Shadow of the Wind by Carlos Ruiz Zafón

Station 11 by Emily St. John Mandel

Your selection from the seven books above will be the basis for one of the following projects. I'm including the projects in case you want to work on them over the summer.

1. **Scrap book.** Think about all the kinds of mementos you would put in a scrap book if you had one. Then create a scrap book for your character, cutting out pictures from magazines or drawing the mementos he or she would have in a scrap book. Think about Willie in *The Crazy Horse Electric Game* by Chris Crutcher. He would probably have something in his scrapbook to represent his baby sister, his love of baseball, his accident, his experiences in L.A., and so on.

2. **Matchbook Project**

Take a Manila Folder. On the outside write the name of the book and the author, and include a large illustration. On the inside, take 9-12 index cards. Fold them like the picture, and write the chapter title at the bottom, and draw a picture on the larger flap. On the inside, write a one-sentence summary of this part of the novel. You can divide into chapters, but if that doesn't work out well, you can divide into segments and draw



your pictures and write your summaries.

3. **Visual 2D or 3D artwork:** Any piece of visual art such as a painting or sculpture that provides an indepth interpretation of one of the novel's themes or motifs.
4. **Create a childhood.** Create a childhood for one of the characters in your book. Tell me everything—what are his or her parents like? Siblings? Teachers? Friends? School? Hopes, dreams, fears, significant events? This assignments allows you to consider what in the character's childhood might have led them to become the person he or she is in the novel. This assignment should be 2 typed pages.
5. **Change the ending**—If the book didn't end the way you wanted it to, and most books don't, then change the ending! Make it happy or make it sad, whatever you prefer. Stay consistent with characterization, time period, diction, etc., but make it end your way. Two typed pages.

Due October 1

If you have questions, my email is lwade@nps.k12.va.us and my Edmodo code for AP Lit next year is pdahuq so join to get info.