

2018-2019 students of English 7-8H/AP:

Ah...summer! Plenty of time to barbecue, to travel, to lounge by the pool, to hang out with friends, and—of course—to read! In preparation for your work in next year's English 7-8H/AP class, we are asking you to complete three readings over the summer.

The reading you complete over the summer will provide you with additional preparation for the AP English Literature and Composition Exam (which many of you will opt to take next spring), give you the opportunity to experience some significant pieces of literature that we won't have time to cover together during the year, allow the class to begin the school year with a communal experience of shared literature, help you to stay engaged with literature during your summer break, and prepare you for the college experience (where reading is frequently assigned before the first session of a course).

As you make your way through these readings, you will submit various reflections on Google Classroom. You will join the classroom SUMMER HONORS READING by using the class code 7u8g2v.

If you have plans over the summer that will leave you without computer access for one or more of the assignment dates, please just speak with Mr. Lodle before the end of May. Together, we'll work out a plan for you.

PART ONE

We would like you to read one of the novels from the attached list during the month of June. The selections are all books that have appeared on the Advanced Placement Literature and Composition exam or that are recommended reading from the Advanced Placement College Board. Nonetheless, you will discover great variety in the list; you will find several "classic" titles on the list as well as many contemporary pieces of literature, and you will find subject matter that should appeal to a wide range of interests.

Before you make your selection, take a little time to learn about the choices on the list. You may do this by visiting the library, a local bookstore, or an online bookstore (such as amazon.com or barnesandnoble.com, which are great sources for both professional and customer book reviews). You must select **a book that you have not read before** and **a book that appeals to you** for this part of your summer reading.

Once you have made your selection, you will post the title of your book on the Google Classroom page. (Remember that you will need class code 7u8g2v to join the classroom.) You should then locate a copy of your book (at the library, at the bookstore, at an online bookstore) and start reading. **You need to make your reading selection (and post your selection on the "Summer Honors Reading" page) no later than Tuesday, May 29.**

As you read, you will complete a journal about the book. Please read the specific instructions for this assignment (which are attached to this letter) before you start reading.

You may work through the book at your own pace. Some of you may read the entire book in a matter of days, while others of you may spread the reading over several weeks. If you read at least a small amount each day, you will have no trouble completing your book before the due date.

You should finish your book and your journal no later than Friday, June 22. When you complete your journal, you will upload it to the "Summer Honors Reading" class on Google Classroom.

PART TWO

We would like you to read at least one book for pleasure during the month of July. You may select **any book that you have not read before and that appeals to you** for this reading. Your pleasure reading is a chance to read what YOU want to read—it could be a relaxing escape from the real world, an interesting non-fiction book, an exciting adventure story, a classic that you have always wanted to tackle, or a book that your best friend recommended. **You need to make your pleasure reading selection (and post your selection on the Google Classroom page) no later than Friday, June 29.**

Again, you may work through this book at your own pace. Some of you may read the entire book in a matter of days, while others of you may spread the reading over a few weeks. If you read at least a small amount each day, you will have no trouble completing your book before the due date.

When you complete your book, you will write an online review about the book. Instructions for the review will be provided on the “Summer Honors Reading” Google Classroom page.

You should finish your book and post your review online no later than Friday, July 20.

PART THREE

We would like you to read a play. All members of the class will read the same piece, and you can expect a test or writing assignment on this play within the first week of the new school year.

We will post an electronic copy of the play on the Google Classroom page. You may read the play online, download a copy of the file to a device, or print a copy to read.

Since plays are very short (and tend to read very quickly), you will be able to complete this reading easily in the first part of August. To help you with this assignment, we will probably schedule an *optional* discussion date before the start of the new school year.

The writing that you complete for these three readings will be the basis of your first grade in the English 7H/AP course, so do your best work.

Enjoy your summer break! We look forward to working with you in the fall. If you have any questions, please feel free to see us before you leave campus or to send an email.

Mr. John Lodle
room B331
jlodle@bths201.org

Ms. Amber Thurnau
room B335
athurnau@bths201.org

**ENGLISH 7-8H/AP
LITERATURE OF THE AMERICAS**

ADVANCED PLACEMENT SUMMER READING

Reservation Blues by Sherman Alexie
How the Garcia Girls Lost Their Accents by Julia Alvarez
Bless Me, Ultima by Rudolfo Anaya
I Know Why the Caged Bird Sings by Maya Angelou
The Handmaid's Tale by Margaret Atwood
In Cold Blood by Truman Capote
My Antonia by Willa Cather
The Awakening by Kate Chopin
The Alchemist by Paulo Coelho
The Dew Breaker by Edwidge Danticat
Ragtime by E.L. Doctorow
Zeitoun by Dave Eggers
Invisible Man by Ralph Ellison
Love Medicine by Louise Erdrich
The Round House by Louise Erdrich
Like Water for Chocolate by Laura Esquivel
As I Lay Dying by William Faulkner
A Lesson Before Dying by Ernest J. Gaines
Catch-22 by Joseph Heller
For Whom the Bell Tolls by Ernest Hemingway
The Sun Also Rises by Ernest Hemingway
Dust Tracks on a Road by Zora Neale Hurston
Their Eyes Were Watching God by Zora Neale Hurston
A Prayer for Owen Meany by John Irving
One Flew over the Cuckoo's Nest by Ken Kesey
The Secret Life of Bees by Sue Monk Kidd
Animal Dreams by Barbara Kingsolver
The Bean Trees by Barbara Kingsolver
The Poisonwood Bible by Barbara Kingsolver
The Woman Warrior by Maxine Hong Kingston
Into the Wild by Jon Krakauer
Obasan by Joy Kogawa
Love in the Time of Cholera by Gabriel Garcia Marquez
All the Pretty Horses by Cormac McCarthy
The Road by Cormac McCarthy
Beloved by Toni Morrison
Song of Solomon by Toni Morrison
Sula by Toni Morrison
Going After Cacciato by Tim O'Brien
In the Lake of the Woods by Tim O'Brien
The Things They Carried by Tim O'Brien
The Bell Jar by Sylvia Plath
The Chosen by Chaim Potok
East of Eden by John Steinbeck
The Grapes of Wrath by John Steinbeck
The Bonesetter's Daughter by Amy Tan
The Joy Luck Club by Amy Tan
Into the Beautiful North by Luis Alberto Urrea
Slaughterhouse Five by Kurt Vonnegut
The Color Purple by Alice Walker
The Glass Castle by Jeannette Walls
Native Son by Richard Wright
Old School by Tobias Wolff

Some titles on this list contain adult language and/or situations. Make sure you conduct the necessary research to select a book that you will feel comfortable reading. If you have questions about the content of any title on this list, you may also speak to the English 7-8H/AP teachers before you make your selection.

SUMMER READING JOURNAL

As you read your selected novel, you will maintain a journal consisting of quotations from the novel and your own analysis of those quotations. Your quotes should be drawn from *throughout the novel*, and you must include *ten to twelve quotations* in your final reflection. You may decide that you want to approach this assignment by selecting one important quotation from each chapter of the novel, but you may certainly encounter chapters where more than one quotation seems significant or where you do not select a quotation at all.

Select your quotes for the journal *thoughtfully*. You should choose each quote because you believe that it represents a key point about the theme of the novel, an important development in a character, an example of important symbolism, a revealing choice in language, or a thought-provoking idea.

Start by typing your name and the title of your text at the top of your journal. For each quotation that you choose, you will do two things in your journal.

1. Type the quote exactly as it appears in the text.

- Place quotation marks around each quote.
- If the quotation is taken from dialogue, include the speaker's name.
(Remember that your quotations do not have to be taken from dialogue in the novel.)
- Include the chapter number and page number of the quote.
- The quote may be only two or three lines or it may be a short paragraph.

2. Write your own paragraph in response to the quote. Below are some possible ways in which you might respond to the quotations. Do not try to write about each of these ideas for each quote; instead, choose the most appropriate manner to respond to each quote so that you use different approaches for different quotations.

- Observe character development, motivation, values.
- Examine setting, conflict, theme, structure.
- Discuss the author's use of specific language or word choices.
- Interpret important imagery, symbolism, or metaphors.
- Analyze the author's tone in the passage.
- Connect the quotation to other important sections of the novel.
- Discuss the importance of this quotation to the novel as a whole.
- Relate the passage to another book or film.
- Provide some personal reaction to the quotation.

The entries in your journal should *span the entire novel*. In your entries, do *not* simply restate or paraphrase the meaning of the quote; use your writing to interact with the author's words and to reflect critically on the text.

Your journal will be evaluated for **variety** (the journal should demonstrate a wide variety of notes, questions, and analysis) and **quality** (the journal should demonstrate a sincere effort to contemplate and respond to the novel). **All work in your journal should be your own; plagiarism will result in a loss of all points for the assignment.**

You should finish your novel and journal no later than FRIDAY, JUNE 22. When you finish, you will upload your journal to the "Summer Honors Reading" class on Google Classroom. (You will need class code 7u8g2v to join the class.) You may complete your journal in Google Docs or in Microsoft Word.