

**Advanced Placement English Literature and Composition**  
**Summer Reading List and Assignments**  
**Google Classroom Code: mvxabgm**

**Introduction:**

Welcome to AP English Literature and Composition! In this class, the expectations for quality of writing and analysis are high. AP students will gain the rewarding feeling of clearly expressing themselves through writing. You will also extend vocabulary and advance syntax and paragraph structure while writing expository and analytical pieces.

Students will have the opportunity to strengthen their imaginations as they take various journeys through noteworthy works of literature. Developing critical standards for interpreting the effects writers create through their manipulation of diction and figurative devices is an essential component of this course. To achieve these goals, students will study individual works, their characters, action, structure, dialogue, and language.

The demands of the Advanced Placement exam are such that we must use the summer months to continue our study of literature and keep our minds sharp for next year. My goal is for you to become more proficient readers, writers, and thinkers.

At any point this summer, you may contact me via email at [jhuber@uhs.doyocs.org](mailto:jhuber@uhs.doyocs.org). We will use our AP Literature 12 Google Classroom as another platform for communication. Your first task is to join our Google Classroom using the following code: mvxabgm.

**Reading List and Assignments:**

The summer reading list consists of novels, dramas, short stories, and poems. Develop a reading schedule to manage your time and to allow for thoughtful analysis. I highly recommend annotating the novels as you read them. Consider using post-it notes to mark significant passages; when you notice literary devices, symbols, motifs, irony, themes, etc. jot your ideas down on the post-it. Have a conversation with each text as much as possible to help you comprehend and analyze the work. In addition, you will complete a reader's log assignment for each of the novels, dramas, and short stories. The directions for these reading logs are on the attached document.

You will not need to complete a reading log for the poems. On p. 732 in the AP textbook, there is a list of questions to use for understanding and evaluating poetry. Answer as many of these questions as you can for each of the poems. Some questions might not apply to certain poems. You do not need to complete any questions that ask

you to mark up the poem or figure out the meter or rhythm. Your poetry responses will not need to be formally submitted on Google Classroom, but you should bring your notes to class for our poetry discussion circles, which will be assessed for points.

**By Friday, July 15, please submit the “Class Thoughts” assignment posted on our AP Literature 12 Google Classroom. (Detailed directions for this introductory assignment are provided directly on Google Classroom.)**

**All summer reading logs are due on the first Friday of the first week of school: Friday, August 19. These assignments must be turned in on the AP Literature 12 Google Classroom and will be part of the first quarter’s grade. We will also be thoroughly testing over, writing about, and discussing these literary works during the first few weeks of the class, so be prepared. It is imperative that you complete all reading assignments to be successful in the AP Literature course.**

**Novels:**

*The Poisonwood Bible*, by Barbara Kingsolver

*Pride and Prejudice*, by Jane Austen

**Drama:**

*A Streetcar Named Desire*, by Tennessee Williams

*Othello*, by William Shakespeare

**Short Stories (All of them can be found in the AP Edition of Perrine’s Literature Textbook):**

“The Most Dangerous Game,” by Richard Connell (p. 62)

“Everyday Use,” by Alice Walker (p. 147)

“Babylon Revisited,” by F. Scott Fitzgerald (p. 200)

“The Necklace,” by Guy de Maupassant (p. 372)

**Poetry (All of the poems can be found in the AP Edition of Perrine’s Literature Textbook):**

“There’s been a Death, in the Opposite House,” by Emily Dickinson (p. 754)

“Redemption,” by George Herbert (p. 822)

“The Chimney Sweeper,” by William Blake (p. 842)

“O sweet spontaneous,” by e.e. Cummings (p. 879)

“We Real Cool,” by Gwendolyn Brooks (p. 916)

“Old Ladies’ Home,” by Sylvia Plath (p. 944)