

Name: _____
Miss Golda
AP English Literature and Composition
Summer 2020

AP English Literature and Composition: Summer Reading 2020

Welcome to AP Lit! This was one of my favorite classes in high school and I'm very excited to have you as part of my class next year. You will have a series of assignments to complete over the summer to help prepare you for the exam next May and to also help further your study of literature.

Part One: Join our Summer Reading Google Classroom and Turn It In

Join our classes Google Classroom by using the code: **g7cnkkm**. Some of your summer reading assignments will be submitted here! Make sure to also create a Turn It In account, if you don't already have one (turnitin.com). Join our class by using Class ID: **24945715** and Enrollment Key: **APLitSummer** when prompted. Some of your assignments will also be posted here.

Part Two: Complete Rough Draft of College Essay

You are required to complete **one** of the essays on the Common Application (commonapp.org) or an essay from another college application, and post it to Turn It In by Friday, August 7th at 11:59PM, but it can be submitted earlier. Please note that this is a Rough Draft and we will be working on the college application process throughout the fall!

Part Three: Read *How to Read Literature Like a Professor* by Thomas Foster and Complete 10 Chapter Responses

This is a book that will serve as a foundation for our literary analysis throughout the year, so I suggest buying your own copy and annotating as you read over the summer. Select 10 chapters (throughout the book - don't just do the first 10!) and write a brief response to the following questions: *Why does this chapter stand out to you? What did you like most about Foster's writing/analysis? What have you read that you could relate this to and why?* There will be a template for you to complete this assignment in on Google Classroom and it must be submitted there by 11:59PM on Friday, August 14th, but it can be submitted earlier.

Part Four: Contemporary Choice Novels and Essay Responses

Select two of the seven contemporary novels listed below and read them (again - not a bad idea to buy a copy and annotate!). Once you have completed reading the novels, select two of the following essay prompts and respond to them in two separate essays (2-4 page MLA formatted papers) which should be submitted to Turn It In by 11:59PM on Friday, August 21st. These essay topics are previous AP Literature Exam prompts, so it should give you a good idea of what we will be discussing this year. **One essay per novel; one novel per essay.**

All the Light We Cannot See - Anthony Doerr

The Brief Wondrous Life of Oscar Wao - Junot Díaz

The Kite Runner - Khaled Hosseini

The Namesake - Jhumpa Lahiri

The Poisonwood Bible - Barbara Kingsolver

The Water Dancer - Ta-Nehisi Coates

When the Emperor Was Divine - Julie Otsuka

Contemporary Choice Novel Essay Prompts (choose two!)

Prompt One: Many works of literature feature characters who have been given a literal or figurative gift. The gift may be an object, or it may be a quality such as uncommon beauty, significant social position, great mental or imaginative faculties, or extraordinary physical powers. Yet this gift is often also a burden or handicap. Select a character from your summer reading novel who has been given a gift that is both an advantage and a problem. They write a well-developed essay analyzing the complex nature of the gift and how the gift contributes to the meaning of the work as a whole. (2018)

Prompt Two: In literary works, cruelty often functions as a crucial motivation or a major social or political factor. Reflect on your summer reading novel and determine if acts of cruelty are important to the theme. Then write a well-developed essay analysing how cruelty functions in the work as a whole and what the cruelty reveals about the perpetrator and/or the victim. (2015)

Prompt Three: It has often been said that what we value can be determined only by what we sacrifice. Consider how this statement applies to a character from a novel or play. Select a character from your summer reading novel that has deliberately sacrificed, surrendered, or forfeited something in a way that highlights that character's values. Then write a well-organized essay in which you analyze how the particular sacrifice illuminates the character's values and provides a deeper understanding of the meaning of the work as a whole. (2014)

Prompt Four: "And, after all, our surroundings influence our lives and characters as much as fate, destiny, or any supernatural agency." - Pauline Hopkins, *Contending Forces*
Consider your summer reading novel and whether cultural, physical, or geographical surroundings shape psychological or moral traits in a character. Then write a well-organized essay in which you analyze how surroundings affect this character and illuminate the meaning of the work as a whole. (2012)

Prompt Five: In a novel by William Styron, a father tells his son that life "is a search for justice." Choose a character from your summer reading novel who responds in some significant way to justice or injustice. Then write a well developed essay in which you analyze the character's understanding of justice, the degree to which the character's search for justice is successful, and the significance of this search for the work as a whole. (2011)

Part Five: “Oldie but a Goodie” Choice Novel Re-read and Double Entry Journal

Select a fictional novel or play you have read during your high school career. Once you have selected a book, email me to confirm that this is an acceptable choice. Over the summer, re-read it (feel free to get your own copy and annotate). While you are reading, you will be responsible for keeping a Double Entry Journal containing 20-40 quotes with your responses (template found on Google Classroom). ***This is also a good opportunity if there has been a classic book or author that you have wanted to read, but haven't had the time or chance.*** This must be completed and submitted to Google Classroom by 11:59PM on Friday, August 28th.

Some suggestions: (Feel free to email me and ask for other suggestions!)

- Frankenstein* by Mary Shelley
- The Crucible* or *Death of a Salesman* by Arthur Miller
- To Kill a Mockingbird* by Harper Lee
- The Great Gatsby* by F. Scott Fitzgerald
- The Adventures of Huckleberry Finn* by Mark Twain
- Any play by Shakespeare

AP Lit Summer Reading - “Cheat Sheet” Chart

What?	When?	Where?
-Join Google Classroom -Join Turn It In	ASAP	Online!
-College Application Essay (either use Common App prompt or prompt from a college you are applying to)	Friday, August 7th by 11:59PM	Turn It In
-Read <i>How to Read Literature Like a Professor</i> by Thomas Foster -Complete 10 Chapter Responses	Friday, August 14th by 11:59PM	Google Classroom (template)
-Select <u>two</u> Contemporary Choice Novels from the list and read them -Select <u>two</u> essay prompts and write <u>two</u> 2-4 page papers	Friday, August 21st by 11:59PM	Turn It In
-Select an “Oldie but a Goodie” Novel and Re-read -Complete Double Entry Journal	Friday, August 28th by 11:59PM	Google Classroom (template)

Email me if you have questions!

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