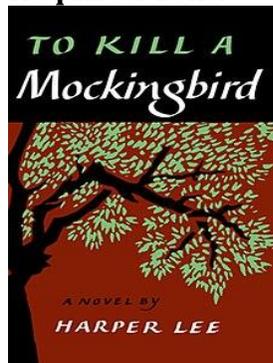


Tomball Star Academy English I PAP Summer Reading

English Teacher: Ms. Maggie Smith

Contact Information: Maggiesmith@tomballisd.net

Required Text:



You are expected to read **To Kill a Mockingbird by Harper Lee** and select one of the essays, poems and songs listed below. You will need to read these closely, annotate (take notes) and come prepared to discuss the book and your printed selections. This book is extremely dense with historical details and allusions to events and literature, so it requires a close reading and a good understanding of the context of the novel. Please complete the attached assignments and be ready to turn in your questions on the first day of class. You will have a test over the novel.

Essay Choices: (choose, print and annotate one)

[“Economics of the New Jim Crow”](#) by Paul Buccheit

[“Is Racism an Illness?”](#) by Noliwe Rooks

[“Why Are People Sexist, Racist & Judgmental? Behind Cognitive Bias”](#) by Rachael Murphey

Poem/Credo Choices (choose, print and annotate one)

[“An Obstacle”](#) by Charlotte Perkins Gilman

[“If We Must Die”](#) by Claude McKay

[“We Wear the Mask”](#) by Paul Lawrence Dunbar

[“What I Believe”](#) by Neil Gaiman

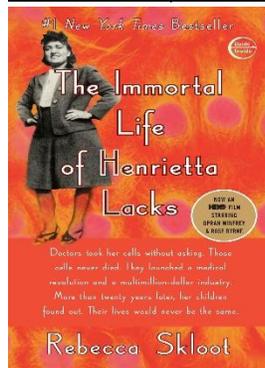
Songs (choose, print lyrics and annotate one)

[“Blowin’ in the Wind”](#) by Bob Dylan

[“Glory”](#) by John Legend & Common

[“A Change is Gonna Come”](#) by Sam Cooke

In addition, each student will need to read the Pre-AP Biology Summer Novel



The Immortal Life of Henrietta Lacks by Rebecca Skloot Her name was Henrietta Lacks, but scientists know her as HeLa. She was a poor Southern tobacco farmer who worked the same land as her slave ancestors, yet her cells—taken without her knowledge—became one of the most important tools in medicine. The first “immortal” human cells grown in culture, they are still alive today, though she has been dead for more than sixty years.

For questions about the Biology summer reading, please contact TimothyCIFelli@tomballisd.net

English I PAP Summer Reading Assignment

This assignment is due on the first day of class. You must write in complete sentences and you may type and print, or write your answers out by hand.

1. **Watch the YouTube video titled “To Kill a Mockingbird, Part I” located here: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=3xM8hvEE2dI>**
2. **Some of the questions may require you to do a bit of additional research about the time period or the literature.**
 1. Define “bildungsroman.”
 2. List five similarities between author Harper Lee and her main character, Scout Finch.
 3. How many other books did Harper Lee write?
 4. What other author did Harper Lee spend time with who influenced the character of Scout’s neighbor, Dill Harris? What did he write?
 5. Who is Atticus Finch? Who is Tom Robinson? How are they connected?
 6. What were the “Jim Crow Laws”?
 7. Give at least five examples of Jim Crow Laws in the South.
 8. List five characteristics of a southern gothic novel. You may need to look this up.

How to Read & Take Notes

The following ideas are suggested in order to help students engage in active reading:

In his essay “How to Mark a Book,” Mortimer Adler explains that reading is a “conversation between you and the author.” Adler writes: “Why is marking up a book indispensable to reading? First, it keeps you awake. (And I don’t mean merely conscious; I mean awake.) In the second place, reading, if it is active, is thinking, and thinking tends to express itself in words, spoken or written. The marked book is usually the thought-through book. Finally, writing helps you remember the thoughts you had, or the thoughts the author expressed.”

“There are all kinds of devices for marking a book intelligently and fruitfully. Here’s the way I do it:

- Underlining (or highlighting): of major points, of important or forceful statements
- Vertical lines at the margin: to emphasize a statement already underlined
- Star, asterisk, or other doo-dad at the margin: to be used sparingly, to emphasize the ten or twenty most important statements in the book (You may want to fold the bottom corner of each page on which you use such marks. It won't hurt the sturdy paper on which most modern books are printed, and you will be able take the book off the shelf at any time and, by opening it at the folded-corner page, refresh your recollection of the book.)
- Numbers of other pages in the margin: to indicate where else in the book the author made points relevant to the point marked; to tie up the ideas in a book, which, though they may be separated by many pages, belong together
- Circling or highlighting of key words or phrases
- Writing in the margin, or at the top or bottom of the page, for the sake of: recording questions (and perhaps answers) which a passage raised in your mind; reducing a complicated discussion to a simple statement; recording the sequence of major points through the book

If marking your book is not a possibility, there are some other options:

- You can use sticky notes. Place these on the pages/paragraphs where you would underline or highlight and write out your thoughts or ideas on the note.
- Write out notes on paper and keep the paper inside the book. Include page numbers with comments/notations so that you will remember what prompted your thinking.