

A Note to AP Language and AP Literature Students

In our attempts to refine the English summer assignments, Mr. Beasley and I have explored many options. We've tried reading logs, optional texts, partial texts, and nonfiction readings. We love the idea of students reading over summer break, but after attending the AP National Conference and speaking with numerous professionals affiliated with College Board, we decided to revisit our requirements for summer reading.

While reading is essential to the class, you are not required to read any particular book this summer, and you are not required to submit a summer assignment. Even so, we would very much like you to read. Go to the library; go to the bookstore; try to find a book you love. We hope to get book recommendations when you return. Every text you read between now and test day will be useful for the class and on the AP Exam. Each course will require you to purchase a text for the beginning of the year. See below for specifics.

AP Literature

Please purchase a copy of *Things Fall Apart*, by Chinua Achebe before returning to school. You should bring your copy on the first day of class. If you would like to get a head start on the year's reading, feel free to start reading the book.

AP Language

Here, our focus is on argumentation and rhetoric. We will begin the year with the text *Words Like Loaded Pistols*, by Sam Leith. You should purchase a copy to have ready for the beginning of the semester. If you would like to lighten your starting work-load, feel free to begin reading the text before we return from the break.

Feel free to contact us if you have any questions, and enjoy your summer!

Mr. Becnel (AP Literature) and Mr. Beasley (AP Language)

becnelp@lpisd.org

beasleyc@lpisd.org