

“Literature is one of the most interesting and significant expressions of humanity.”

-- P. T. Barnum

AP Literature Summer Reading/Writing Assignments 2019-2020

The following summer assignments are designed to help you enter the classroom confident and committed to the course. These assignments are to be done in addition to your reading assignment for *This I Believe: The Personal Philosophies of Remarkable Men and Women* edited by Jay Allison and Dan Gediman. Get started early, even before the last day of school, to gain the most benefit as well as enjoyment from the assignments.

The assignments are as follows:

- 1. See the school website and complete the grade level assignment for the book, *This I Believe: The Personal Philosophies of Remarkable Men and Women* edited by Jay Allison and Dan Gediman.** Instead of reading the “selection” of essays listed, you will read all of them.
- 2. *Hamlet* by William Shakespeare - Writing Double Entry Journal**
Read the play closely and carefully; take your time. As you go along, keep a reading/writing journal where you respond to the literature. Possible reactions may be insights you have gained; feelings of pity, contempt, admiration, compassion, etc. for particular characters; opinions you have formed, changed or reinforced due to the reading; confusion or perplexity over issues brought forth; or any other number of possible reactions elicited from your reading. Be sincere and genuine in your responses. Do not try to impress or say what you think I may want to hear. Do not rely on Spark Notes, Shmoop, Cliffs Notes, or any other such material for this journal. I am not interested in and will not accept any work that is not entirely your own. All you need to earn a good grade on this assignment is yourself. What I want you to provide is a fresh, original, reaction from a curious, enthusiastic reader. The journal log should be ongoing from beginning to end, so do not wait to finish the book to respond. Typical journal submissions have between 50-80 quotes and reflections depending on the length of the book. This can be typed, handwritten, or done in a notebook.
- 3. Free Response Essay (9 point rubric)**
Choose a classic work of fiction from the attached list. This list has been compiled by AP graders. These books, in addition to everything you have read in your English classes since freshmen year (with a few exceptions) will help you in the “free response” essay section of the exam. This section asks students to choose a NEW NOVEL or PLAY to discuss in response to a prompt. Therefore, the list you have been provided with has only literature of the highest literary merit. Be sure that you do not choose one of the works we will be studying together in class next year. That specific list appears on the very last page. If there is a novel or play that you really want to read, but it is not on the list, you must email me or see me before the end of the school year for approval. Your free response essay must be handwritten.
 - Write the year of the prompt you choose in the heading:
Joe Smith
AP Literature/Composition
1994 Prompt (and “form” letter if applicable)
September 8, 2016
 - Try to time yourself (40 minutes)
 - You DO NOT need page numbers or direct quotes

- If you have memorized certain quotes from the work you choose, and would like to use them here...awesome!

This type of essay requires a response based on a provocative question that highlights specific insights applicable to a broad range of literary texts. Why is it called a free response essay? It's free because you have the freedom to choose the piece of literature to which you will refer as long as the novel or play is one of "literary merit" (it's freedom with a catch). Think of it this way: You began making metaphorical files of great stories the day you learned to read. Over the years, each work has been placed into its own folder and all of this information is stored within the filing cabinets of your mind. As an AP literature student, you must begin going through all those files and make a new and very unique folder. This folder will have your five "go to" novels or plays, and this is the folder you will pull from to write the final essay on the exam (possibly the final essay of your high school career). Look at the hypothetical "free folder" below:

1. Main idea of prompt: The journey as a major force in a work (ex: Gulliver's Travel)
2. Main idea of prompt: What happens to a dream deferred? (ex: Their Eyes Were Watching God)
3. Main idea of prompt: Transformation (literal/figurative). (ex: The Metamorphosis)
4. Main idea of prompt: Perception vs. reality. (ex: Hamlet)
5. Main idea of prompt: Loss of innocence (ex. The Catcher in the Rye)

I have provided 7 prompts from different testing years. Be sure to highlight and annotate the prompt you choose to make certain you are addressing the requirements of the specific question. Plan your attack thoroughly before writing. STAY ON TOPIC. Avoid plot Summary.

The suggested reading list for this essay is on the next page.

Suggested Works for AP English Literature Classic Selection for Summer Reading:
Titles from Free Response Questions (Final essay on the AP Exam)
Updated from an original list by Norma J. Wilkerson.

A

Absalom, Absalom by William Faulkner (76, 00, 10, 12)
The Adventures of Huckleberry Finn by Mark Twain (80, 82, 85, 91, 92, 94, 95, 96, 99, 05, 06, 07, 08, 11)
The Age of Innocence by Edith Wharton (97, 02, 03, 08, 12)
All My Sons by Arthur Miller (85, 90)
All the Pretty Horses by Cormac McCarthy (95, 96, 06, 07, 08, 10, 11)
Anna Karenina by Leo Tolstoy (80, 91, 99, 03, 04, 06, 08, 09)
Antigone by Sophocles (79, 80, 90, 94, 99, 03, 05, 09, 11).
As I Lay Dying by William Faulkner (78, 89, 90, 94, 01, 04, 06, 07, 09)
The Awakening by Kate Chopin (87, 88, 91, 92, 95, 97, 99, 02, 04, 07, 09, 11)

B

Beloved by Toni Morrison (90, 99, 01, 03, 05, 07, 09, 10, 11)
The Bluest Eye by Toni Morrison (95, 08, 09)
The Bonesetter's Daughter by Amy Tan (06, 07, 11)
Brave New World by Aldous Huxley (89, 05, 09, 10)
The Brothers Karamazov by Fyodor Dostoevsky (90, 08)

C

Candide by Voltaire (80, 86, 87, 91, 95, 96, 04, 06, 10)
Catch-22 by Joseph Heller (82, 85, 87, 89, 94, 01, 03, 04, 05, 07, 08, 11)
Cat on a Hot Tin Roof by Tennessee Williams (00)
Cold Mountain by Charles Frazier (06, 08)
The Color Purple by Alice Walker (92, 94, 95, 96, 97, 05, 08, 09, 12)
Cry, The Beloved Country by Alan Paton (85, 87, 91, 95, 96, 07, 09)
The Crossing by Cormac McCarthy (09)

D

David Copperfield by Charles Dickens (78, 83, 06)
The Divine Comedy by Dante Alighieri (06)
Doctor Faustus by Christopher Marlowe (79, 86, 99, 04, 11)
Doctor Zhivago by Boris Pasternak (10)
A Doll's House by Henrik Ibsen (71, 83, 87, 88, 95, 05, 09)

E

East of Eden by John Steinbeck (06)
Emma by Jane Austen (96, 08)

F

A Farewell to Arms by Ernest Hemingway (99, 04, 09) *The Father* by August Strindberg (01)
For Whom the Bell Tolls by Ernest Hemingway (03, 06) *Frankenstein* by Mary Shelley (89, 00, 03, 06, 08)

G

The Glass Menagerie by Tennessee Williams (71, 90, 94, 97, 99, 02, 08, 09, 10, 12)
The Golden Bowl by Henry James (09)
The Grapes of Wrath by John Steinbeck (95, 03, 06, 09, 10, 11, 12)
Go Tell It on the Mountain by James Baldwin (83, 88, 90, 05, 09)
Gulliver's Travels by Jonathan Swift (87, 89, 01, 04, 06, 09)

H

Heart of Darkness by Joseph Conrad (71, 76, 91, 94, 96, 99, 00, 01, 02, 03, 04, 06, 09, 10, 11, 12)

Hedda Gabler by Henrik Ibsen (79, 92, 00, 02, 03, 05)

The House of Mirth by Edith Wharton (04, 07, 10)

The House of Seven Gables by Nathaniel Hawthorne (89)

I

The Iliad by Homer (80)

Invisible Man by Ralph Ellison (76, 77, 78, 82, 83, 85, 86, 87, 88, 89, 91, 94, 95, 96, 97, 01, 03, 04, 05, 07, 08, 09, 10, 11, 12)

J

Jane Eyre by Charlotte Bronte (78, 79, 80, 88, 91, 94, 95, 96, 97, 99, 00, 05, 07, 08, 10)

The Joy Luck Club by Amy Tan (97, 03)

Jude the Obscure by Thomas Hardy (71, 76, 80, 85, 87, 95, 04, 09, 10)

The Jungle by Upton Sinclair (77, 78, 82, 88, 89, 90, 96, 09)

K

The Kite Runner by Khaled Hosseini (07, 08, 09)

L

A Lesson before Dying by Ernest Gaines (99, 11)

Long Day's Journey into Night by Eugene O'Neill (90, 03, 07)

Look Homeward, Angel by Thomas Wolfe (10)

Lysistrata by Aristophanes (87)

M

Madame Bovary by Gustave Flaubert (80, 85, 04, 05, 06, 09, 10)

Maggie: A Girl of the Streets by Stephen Crane (12)

Mansfield Park by Jane Austen

The Member of the Wedding by Carson McCullers (97, 08)

Moby Dick by Herman Melville (76, 77, 78, 79, 80, 89, 94, 96, 01, 03, 04, 05, 06, 07, 09)

Moll Flanders by Daniel Defoe (76, 77, 86, 87, 95, 09)

Mrs. Dalloway by Virginia Woolf (94, 97, 04, 05, 07, 11)

My Ántonia by Willa Cather (03, 08, 10, 12)

N

The Namesake by Jhumpa Lahiri (09, 10)

Never Let Me Go by Kazuo Ishiguro (09, 10)

Notes from the Underground by Fyodor Dostoevski (89)

O

Oliver Twist by Charles Dickens (09)

On the Road by Jack Kerouac

One Flew Over the Cuckoo's Nest by Ken Kesey (01, 12, 15)

One Hundred Years of Solitude by Gabriel Garcia Marquez (89, 04, 12)

Oryx and Crake by Margaret Atwood

Our Town by Thornton Wilder (86, 97, 09)

Out of Africa by Isak Dinesen (06)

P

Persuasion by Jane Austen (90, 05, 07)

The Picture of Dorian Gray by Oscar Wilde (02)

The Poisonwood Bible by Barbara Kingsolver (10, 11, 12)

Portrait of a Lady by Henry James (88, 92, 96, 03, 05, 07, 11)

Portrait of the Artist as a Young Man by James Joyce (76, 77, 80, 86, 88, 96, 99, 04, 05, 08, 09, 10, 11, 13)

A Prayer for Owen Meany by John Irving (09)

Pride and Prejudice by Jane Austen (83, 88, 92, 97, 08, 11, 12)

R

The Red Badge of Courage by Stephen Crane (08)

The Remains of the Day by Kazuo Ishiguro (00, 03, 11)

A River Runs Through It by Norman Maclean (08)

The Road by Cormac McCarthy (10)

Robinson Crusoe by Daniel Defoe (10)

A Room of One's Own by Virginia Woolf (76)

A Room with a View by E. M. Forster (03)

S

Slaughterhouse Five by Kurt Vonnegut (91, 04)

Sophie's Choice by William Styron (09)

Song of Solomon by Toni Morrison (81, 88, 96, 00, 04, 05, 06, 07, 10, 13)

The Sound and the Fury by William Faulkner (77, 86, 97, 01, 07, 08, 13)

The Stranger by Albert Camus (79, 82, 86, 04)

Sula by Toni Morrison (92, 97, 02, 04, 07, 08, 10, 12)

The Sun Also Rises by Ernest Hemingway (85, 91, 95, 96, 04, 05, 12)

T

A Tale of Two Cities by Charles Dickens (82, 91, 04, 08)

Tess of the D'Urbervilles by Thomas Hardy (82, 91, 03, 06, 07, 12)

Their Eyes Were Watching God by Zora Neale Hurston (88, 90, 91, 96, 04, 05, 06, 07, 08, 10, 11, 13)

Things Fall Apart by Chinua Achebe (91, 97, 03, 09, 10, 11)

A Thousand Acres by Jane Smiley (06)

A Thousand Splendid Suns by Khaled Hosseini (11, 13)

To the Lighthouse by Virginia Woolf (77, 86, 88, 08)

The Turn of the Screw by Henry James (92, 94, 00, 02, 04, 08)

U

Uncle Tom's Cabin by Harriet Beecher Stowe (87, 09)

V

The Vicar of Wakefield by Oliver Goldsmith (06)

W

Washington Square by Henry James (90)

Who's Afraid of Virginia Woolf? by Edward Albee (88, 94, 00, 04, 07, 11)

Wide Sargasso Sea by Jean Rhys (89, 92, 05, 07, 08)

Wuthering Heights by Emily Bronte (71, 77, 78, 79, 83, 86, 88, 89, 90, 91, 92, 96, 97, 99, 01, 06, 07, 08, 10, 12)

You may not reread anything from the 9th, 10th or 11th grade curricula, nor from the list below, as these are part of the AP Literature and Composition curriculum:

- *The Great Gatsby* by F. Scott Fitzgerald
- *Hamlet* by William Shakespeare
- *The Importance of Being Ernest* by Oscar Wilde
- *The Metamorphosis* by Frank Kafka
- *A Streetcar Named Desire* by Tennessee Williams
- *No Exit* by Jean Paul Sartre
- *The Catcher in the Rye* by J.D Salinger
- *Death of a Salesman* by Arthur Miller
- *The Handmaid's Tale* by Margaret Atwood
- *Ordinary People* by Judith Guest

AP ENGLISH LITERATURE FREE RESPONSE ESSAY QUESTIONS

1. 1994. In some works of literature, a character who appears briefly, or does not appear at all, is a significant presence. Choose a novel or play of literary merit and write an essay in which you show how such a character functions in the work. You may wish to discuss how the character affects action, theme, or the development of other characters. Avoid plot summary.
2. 1995. Writers often highlight the values of a culture or a society by using characters who are alienated from that culture or society because of gender, race, class, or creed. Choose a novel or a play in which such a character plays a significant role and show how that character's alienation reveals the surrounding society's assumptions or moral values.
3. 2004, Form B. The most important themes in literature are sometimes developed in scenes in which a death or deaths take place. Choose a novel or play and write a well-organized essay in which you show how a specific death scene helps to illuminate the meaning of the work as a whole. Avoid mere plot summary.
4. 2005. In Kate Chopin's *The Awakening* (1899), protagonist Edna Pontellier is said to possess "That outward existence which conforms, the inward life that questions." In a novel or play that you have studied, identify a character who outwardly conforms while questioning inwardly. Then write an essay in which you analyze how this tension between outward conformity and inward questioning contributes to the meaning of the work. Avoid mere plot summary.
5. 2006, Form B. In many works of literature, a physical journey - the literal movement from one place to another - plays a central role. Choose a novel, play, or epic poem in which a physical journey is an important element and discuss how the journey adds to the meaning of the work as a whole. Avoid mere plot summary.
6. 2007. In many works of literature, past events can affect, positively or negatively, the present activities, attitudes, or values of a character. Choose a novel or play in which a character must contend with some aspect of the past, either personal or societal. Then write an essay in which you show how the character's relationship to the past contributes to the meaning of the work as a whole.
7. 2009. A symbol is an object, action, or event that represents something or that creates a range of associations beyond itself. In literary works a symbol can express an idea, clarify meaning, or enlarge literal meaning. Select a novel or play and, focusing on one symbol, write an essay analyzing how that symbol functions in the work and what it reveals about the characters or themes of the work as a whole. Do not merely summarize the plot.

Mr. Leite's Advanced Placement Literature and Composition

Class Participation Contract for the 2019-2020 School Year

1. I understand as a student of Advanced Placement Literature and Composition, I will engage in the careful reading and critical analysis of various works of literature. I understand that this is an intensive, challenging course with sometimes mature literature.
2. I know that assignments will be graded on a standard that demands college level academic rigor per the College Board recommendations.
3. I understand that class discussions will encompass a great deal of the learning experience and I will be prepared for and actively participate in the class discussions.
4. I understand that daily/nightly homework is not frequently assigned; instead, there are many long-term assignments that correspond to a literary unit. Late assignments will not be accepted – if an assignment is not submitted on the due date (regardless of your attendance in school), the assignment will be recorded as a zero (0).
5. I understand I will be expected to complete assigned outside reading novels that are related to the works being discussed in class, bi-monthly and complete the corresponding assignment.
6. I understand that while most of the texts for this course will be provided, I am responsible for obtaining my summer reading novels (except *Hamlet*) and other outside reading novels. I understand that I may check these books out from the school library, request them through BCCLS, borrow from the class library (if available), or purchase them.
7. I understand that plagiarism is defined as taking some else's words or ideas as if they were my own. If I am caught plagiarizing work, I will receive a zero (0) for that assignment. This includes "copying" homework.
8. I fully understand that all summer assignments are expected to be completed and submitted on Monday, September 9, 2019.
9. I understand that if I am found to be doing work for another course in AP Literature, I will be reported to that respective teacher and I will receive no credit for that assignment. Additionally, it will be brought to the attention of the English supervisor and building principal and be recommended that I be removed from AP Literature and enrolled in English 12.

I, _____ (student name), have read the expectations and policies for AP English Literature and Composition. I understand the level of work that will be required of me this year, and I will come to class prepared.

Student Signature _____ Date _____
Parent Signature _____ Date _____