Assigned Novels:

- *The Absolutely True Story of a Part-Time Indian*, Sherman Alexie
- *The Help*, Kathryn Stockett

**Welcome to the English program at Mission College Preparatory!** An important component of the English program is the summer reading assignment. The four main goals of this assignment are to keep you active in reading, broaden your horizons, challenge your thinking skills, and ease your transition into high school.

The summer reading assignment is a graded assignment. Although we will discuss the novels in class, your knowledge will be discerned in three (3) ways: a visual assignment (poster project), writing (that we will work on together), and an exam administered during the first weeks of school. You **will need to bring the novels to school with you** on the first day of class.

**I. Poster Project: A Visual Analysis of Theme – Due end of first week of school as assigned in class.**

Design a poster that depicts that theme. (Please do **NOT** use foam core or super-thick poster board. It’s too difficult to hang.)

- **Decide on a main theme of one work, and write a sentence expressing this idea on the back of your poster.**
- **Select** a quote that best reflects and supports the theme you have chosen to illustrate. **Copy** the quote (neatly and accurately) onto the front of your poster (it must be visible from a distance) and cite it using correct MLA in-text citation guidelines.
- **Draw** a visual depiction or representation of the theme based on the details of your quotation.
- **Place** the title of the work and the author’s name clearly and legibly on the front of the poster so that it can be seen from a distance.
- **Use** color and fill the entire poster. Illustrations should be visible from a distance.

**II. Exam:** The Summer Reading exam will take place during the second week of school.

**III. Writing:** We will spend time in class working on the writing component.
World Literature Summer Reading Assignment
Sophomores: 2019-2020

Assigned Novels:
- *The Three-Inch Golden Lotus*, Feng Jicai
- *The Iliad*, Homer (Fitzgerald Translation)

**Welcome to World Literature!** An important component of the English program at Mission College Prep is the Summer Reading assignment. The three main goals of this assignment are to keep you active in reading, broaden your horizons, and challenge your thinking skills. The Summer Reading Assignment is a graded assignment; your knowledge of the book’s content will be discerned in three ways:

- A visual depiction
- A piece of writing
- An exam

The poster will be due during the first full week of school; the essay and exam will be assigned during school.

**I. Poster Project: A Visual Analysis of Theme – Due end of first week of school as assigned in class.**

Design a poster that depicts that theme. (Please do **NOT** use foam core or super-thick poster board. It’s too difficult to hang.)

- Decide on a main theme of one work, and write a sentence expressing this idea on the back of your poster.
- Select a quote that best reflects and supports the theme you have chosen to illustrate. **Copy** the quote (neatly and accurately) onto the front of your poster (it must be visible from a distance) and cite it in MLA.
- Draw a visual depiction or representation of the theme based on the details of your quotation.
- Place the title of the work and the author’s name clearly and legibly on the front of the poster so that it can be seen from a distance.
- Use color and fill the entire poster. Illustrations should be visible from a distance.

**II. Thematic Essay: Written during the second week of school.**

- You will be writing a thematic literary analysis essay on the novels.
- **As you read**, pay attention to the message that the author is putting forth. Remember, all authors write for specific purposes; as critical thinkers, our job is to figure out that purpose.
- We will work on the essay’s construction, during class, prior to writing it.
Assigned Novels:

- *The Grapes of Wrath*, John Steinbeck
- *The Interesting Narrative of the Life of Olaudah Equiano*, Olaudah Equiano

**Welcome to American Literature!** An important component of the English program at Mission College Prep is the Summer Reading assignment. The three main goals of this assignment are to keep you active in reading, broaden your horizons, and challenge your thinking skills. The Summer Reading Assignment is a graded assignment; your knowledge of the work’s content will be discerned through a visual depiction, summative assessment, and essay. The poster will be due during the first full week of school; the date of the essay and exam will be announced in class.

**I. Poster Project: A Visual Analysis of Theme – Due end of first week of school as assigned in class.**
Design a poster that depicts that theme. (Please do **NOT** use foam core or super-thick poster board. It’s too difficult to hang.)

- **Decide on a main theme of one work, and write a sentence expressing this idea on the back of your poster.**
- **Select** a quote that best reflects and supports the theme you have chosen to illustrate. **Copy** the quote (neatly and accurately) onto the front of your poster (it must be visible from a distance) and cite it in MLA.
- **Draw** a visual depiction or representation of the theme based on the details of your quotation.
- **Place** the title of the work and the author’s name clearly and legibly on the front of the poster so that it can be seen from a distance.
- **Use** color and fill the entire poster. Illustrations should be visible from a distance.

**II. Thematic Essay: Written during the second week of school.**

- You will be writing a thematic literary analysis essay on the novels.
- **As you read,** pay attention to the message that the author is putting forth. Remember, all authors write for specific purposes; as critical thinkers, our job is to figure out that purpose.
- We will work on the essay’s construction, during class, prior to writing it.
Assigned Texts:
- *The Grapes of Wrath*, John Steinbeck
- *In Cold Blood*, Truman Capote

*Welcome to AP English Language and Composition!* An important component of the English program is the Summer Reading assignment. The three main goals of this assignment are to keep you active in reading, broaden your horizons, and challenge your thinking skills. The above works have been chosen carefully and will be referred to throughout the course of the year. The Summer Reading Assignment is a graded assignment; your knowledge of the above works’ contents will be discerned through a Reading Response Notebook—including a vocabulary component—and a test.

**Overview:** One concept central to AP English Language is that all writing, including fiction, is in some way an argument. Some writers and scholars contend that, in fact, “everything is an argument.” Working together, we will broaden and deepen our understanding of this idea in the class. As you read the above two works, think about two essential questions:

1) In what way is this book an “argument”?
2) What is this book arguing for?

**The Assignments:**

1. **Read and Respond:** As you read the books, keep a Reading Response Notebook. In the notebook, record your ideas regarding the two essential questions *as you read*. You may do so in ink in a spiral notebook or on your computer. Every time you read you should clearly write the date in your log and number your responses with the chapter and page numbers. You should have at least one response per chapter. The length of your responses may vary according to chapter length.

2. **Build your vocabulary**
   Increased word power and vocabulary will be a major emphasis in the class. Plan to learn at least twenty-five new words as you read these books. Do this by writing the word, page number, the phrase or sentence where you found it, and an appropriate definition from a dictionary. Include this personal word list as a section of your response log. Reading Response Notebooks will be checked and will receive a grade of “check plus,” “check,” or “check minus.” In order to earn a “check plus,” you must have the twenty five vocabulary words.

3. **Take a Test**
   There will be a reading test on the books during the first week of school.
British Literature Summer Reading Assignment  
Seniors 2019-2020

Assigned Novels:
- *Atonement*, Ian McEwan
- *Strange Case of Dr. Jekyll and Mr. Hyde*, Robert Louis Stevenson

Welcome to British Literature! An important component of the English program is the Summer Reading assignment. The three main goals of this assignment are to keep you active in reading, broaden your horizons, and challenge your thinking skills. The Summer Reading Assignment is a graded assignment; your knowledge of the work’s content will be discerned through a visual depiction, summative assessment, and essay. The poster will be due during the first full week of school; the date of the essay will be announced in class.

I. Poster Project: A Visual Analysis of Theme – Due end of first week of school as assigned in class.
- **Decide on a main theme of one of the novels. Your poster will reflect this message.**
- **Design** a poster that depicts that theme. (Please do NOT use foam core or super-thick poster board. It’s too difficult to hang.)
- **Decide on a main theme of the novel, and write a sentence expressing this idea on the back of your poster.**
- **Select** a quote (key phrases or words) that best reflects and supports the theme you have chosen to illustrate.
- **Copy** the quote (neatly and accurately) onto the front of your poster (it must be visible from a distance).
- **Draw** a visual depiction or representation of the theme based on the details of your quotation.
- **Place** the title of the work and the author’s name clearly and legibly on the front of the poster so that it can be seen from a distance.
- **Use** color and fill the entire poster. Illustrations should be visible from a distance.

II. Thematic Essay: Written during school.
- You will be writing a thematic literary analysis essay on the novels.
- **As you read**, pay attention to the message that the author is putting forth. Remember, all authors write for specific purposes; as critical thinkers, our job is to figure out that purpose.
- We will work on the essay’s construction, during class, prior to writing it.
AP English Literature Summer Reading Assignment:

Seniors 2019-2020

Assigned Novels:

- *Atonement*, Ian McEwan
- *A Prayer for Owen Meany*, John Irving

Welcome to AP English Literature! An important component of the English program is the Summer Reading assignment. The three main goals of this assignment are to keep you **active in reading, broaden your horizons, and challenge your thinking skills**. The two works have been chosen carefully and will be referred to throughout the course of the year.

Rhetorical Analysis Essay: This will occur during the second full week of school.

We will work on rhetorical analysis, during class, prior to writing the essay.

- All authors write for specific purposes. Our job is to figure out the “what,” aka purpose. Additionally, all authors rely on a variety of literary strategies to get the “what” across. Our job is to discern the ways in which the author does that, commonly known as the “how,” and to also discuss the implications, or the “so what.”

- Therefore, as you read, pay close attention to the descriptions that the author utilizes, the ways in which those descriptions convey his purpose, and the associated implications. Consider yourself a literary sleuth, looking for the “what,” the “how,” and the “so what.”

- As you read, annotate your copy, continually looking for the message that the author is putting forth. This will increase your understanding of the novel, as well as assist you in studying for the exam. Annotating will give you a plethora of quotes from which to choose when writing the essay.

- Finally, you will be assessed on your critical thinking / analysis skills. Referring to sites such as sparknotes.com, ragnotes.com, or cliffnotes.com does not prepare you for the expectations of AP English Language, or any other English class for that matter. Close reading is the key to deeper level thinking, as well as more sophisticated writing.