

AP Literature and Composition
Summer Reading Assignment (2020-2021)
Mrs. Koett

Welcome to AP Literature and Composition! I am excited that you have elected to challenge yourself, and it is my prayer that we will have a fantastic year learning from each other. Please take the time to carefully read all part of this packet. The first key to a successful school year is to ensure that you continue to practice your critical reading and writing skills over the summer. The English department has carefully considered the needs of AP students in selecting this year's required texts. It is vital and required that you complete all parts of the summer reading assignments. Keep in mind that your completion and effort on the summer reading assignment is my first indication of who you are as a student.

The Advanced Placement/College Board program encourages summer reading as it provides a jump-start on the school year, improves critical reading abilities, and encourages vocabulary growth. This assignment is designed to help prepare you for college and the AP exam. This summer reading packet contains directions, assignment descriptions, examples, and rubrics. Remember to pace yourself accordingly over the summer break, and do not wait until the last days of the break to begin your summer reading. The summer reading assignment is due on the first day of school unless otherwise noted. I do not take late work, so if you are unable to complete the work required, you may want to talk to your college counselor about a change in course scheduling.

1. Purchase and carefully read the following novels:
 - The Screwtape Letters by C.S. Lewis (ISBN: 978-0060652937)
 - Heart of Darkness by Joseph Conrad (ISBN: 978-0-141-44167-2)
2. Complete the assignments that follow for each required reading
3. Be prepared to turn in all assignments on the first day of school: **AUGUST 12, 2020**

Part I: The Screwtape Letters by C.S. Lewis

As you read *The Screwtape Letters*, you are required to keep a dialectical journal. The term "Dialectic" means "the art or practice of arriving at the truth by using conversation involving question and answer." Think of your dialectical journal as a series of conversations with the texts we read during this course. The process is meant to help you develop a better understanding of the texts we read. You will find that it is a useful way to process what you are reading, prepare yourself for group discussions, and gather textual evidence for your Literary Analysis assignments. **You must have 35 total entries, and at least one entry from each letter. This part of the summer reading is worth 75 points. You will NOT receive credit for any summaries.** Each entry is worth 2 points. You will receive 5 points for following the correct formatting. **You are required to type your journals. Please format your journals after the sample below.** I do read your comments. You should not have the same comments as other students. This is cheating and will be treated as such.

Procedure:

- As you read, choose passages that stand out to you and record them in the left-hand column of a T-chart (ALWAYS include page numbers).
- In the right column, write your response to the text (ideas/insights, questions, reflections, and comments on each passage)
- Label each of your responses using the following codes:
 - **(Q)** Question – ask about something in the passage that is unclear (limit to only two) - *be sure to respond to/reflect upon your question if/when you find an answer.*
 - **(C)** Connect – make a connection to your life, the world, or another text
 - **(CL)** Clarify – answer earlier questions or confirm/disaffirm a prediction
 - **(R)** Reflect – think deeply about what the passage means in a broad sense – not just to the characters in the story. What conclusions can you draw about the world, about human nature, or just the way things work?

- (E) Evaluate - make a judgment about the character(s), their actions, or what the author is trying to say
- Provide at least thirty-five (35) entries. Each entry must be at least 2 sentences long.

Sample Dialectical Journal entry: *The Things They Carried*, by Tim O'Brien

Passages from the text	Pg#s	Comments & Questions
"-they carried like freight trains; they carried it on their backs and shoulders-and for all the ambiguities of Vietnam, all the mysteries and unknowns, there was at least the single abiding certainty that they would never be at a loss for things to carry".	Pg 2	(R) O'brien chooses to end the first section of the novel with this sentence. He provides excellent visual details of what each soldier in Vietnam would carry for day-to-day fighting. He makes you feel the physical weight of what soldiers have to carry for simple survival. When you combine the emotional weight of loved ones at home, the fear of death, and the responsibility for the men you fight with, with this physical weight, you start to understand what soldiers in Vietnam dealt with every day. This quote sums up the confusion that the men felt about the reasons they were fighting the war, and how they clung to the only certainty - things they had to carry - in a confusing world where normal rules were suspended.

Choosing Passages from the Text:

Look for quotes that seem significant, powerful, thought provoking or puzzling. For example, you might record:

- Effective &/or creative use of stylistic or literary devices
- Passages that remind you of your own life or something you've seen before
- Structural shifts or turns in the plot
- A passage that makes you realize something you hadn't seen before
- Examples of patterns: recurring images, ideas, colors, symbols or motifs.
- Passages with confusing language or unfamiliar vocabulary
- Events you find surprising or confusing
- Passages that illustrate a particular character or setting

Responding To the Text:

You can respond to the text in a variety of ways. The most important thing to remember is that your observations should be *specific and detailed*.

Basic Responses

- Raise questions about the beliefs and values implied in the text
- Give your personal reactions to the passage
- Discuss the words, ideas, or actions of the author or character(s)
- Tell what it reminds you of from your own experiences
- Write about what it makes you think or feel
- Agree or disagree with a character or the author

Higher Level Responses

- Analyze the text for use of literary devices (tone, structure, style, imagery)
- Make connections between different characters or events in the text
- Make connections to a different text (or film, song, etc...)
- Discuss the words, ideas, or actions of the author or character(s)
- Consider an event or description from the perspective of a different character
- Analyze a passage and its relationship to the story as a whole

REMINDERS:

- Write down your thoughts, questions, insights, and ideas **while you read** or **immediately after reading a section of the book** so the information is fresh. Each response must be at least 2 complete sentences.
- As you take notes, you should regularly re-read your previous pages of notes and comments.
- First person writing (using the pronoun "I") is acceptable in the RESPONSE column.
- Remember the quotations in the TEXT column do not have to be dialogue!
- **Your dialectical journal is due on the first day of school**

In this process, there is to be NO collaboration with other students. Any assistance from the Internet, movies, or secondary sources such as Sparknotes, Shmoop, or Wikipedia will be viewed as cheating. If you have questions about format, email ckoett@lexingtonchristian.org

In addition to the dialectical journal, you will be assigned to small groups once you return from the summer break. Your group will be assigned 1-2 letters from the novel, and your group will be responsible for leading the class through a discussion of the letter(s). More details will be given to you in class; however, you must be very familiar with the content to lead a discussion. Therefore, it is important that you closely read the novel and take notes/annotations as you read. All students will also complete an individual writing assignment related to their reading of *The Screwtape Letters*.

PART II: Heart of Darkness by Joseph Conrad

Closely read and annotate *Heart of Darkness* by Joseph Conrad. Do not let the length of this novel mislead you. It is a dense and challenging read and considered by many to be one of the more difficult novels in British literature. This is not a novel that you will be able to read and comprehend in a few days.

- You will complete a MWDS for the novel which must be typed and is due on the first day of school. You will submit a printed hard copy of your MWDS and it will also be submitted to turnitin.com on the first day of school, so you must have a digital copy. You will lose 50 points from the assignment if you do not have a digital copy to submit. Be sure you follow the directions exactly or you will not receive full credit. Use this link to access the MWDS:
<https://docs.google.com/document/d/1UlyBidvOMOHAPUcxgNuCOzmdC0Cg9wocE8-mEzs9H0/edit?usp=sharing>
- MAKE SURE YOU DO NOT TYPE DIRECTLY IN THE LINK I SHARED. You will need to download form and save as your own.
- You will take a test on this novel when you return from summer break. Many of the questions will be AP-style questions. If you have no experience with AP questions, I highly recommend looking at some sample questions to prepare you for the test. You can use this site to help practice AP questions; the practice m/c questions begin on page 12. <https://secure-media.collegeboard.org/digitalServices/pdf/ap/ap-english-literature-and-composition-course-description.pdf>

PART III: Timed Writing

- You will take a timed writing on *Heart of Darkness* when you return from summer break.
- Your teacher will supply you with a prompt and you will complete a timed writing.
- You may use this link to see a sample timed writing which scored an 8 (the highest score is a 9).
<https://drive.google.com/file/d/1zev7vTsX5n2kTJLs8IQ9MBx4CQpVyONJ/view?usp=sharing>
- The timed writing will take place when you return from summer break

SUMMER READING CHECKLIST

Assignment	Point Value	Due Date
Read and complete DJ assignment for <i>The Screwtape Letters</i>	75	August 12
Read and complete MWDS for <i>Heart of Darkness</i>	100	August 12
Timed writing (novel choice)	50	August 18
Test over <i>Heart of Darkness</i>	75	August 19
Group assignment for <i>The Screwtape Letters</i>	20	August 24-25
Individual assignment for <i>The Screwtape Letters</i>	20	August 28