**AP Language and Composition**

**Summer Reading Assignments (2021-2022)**

Welcome to AP Language and Composition! I am so excited to challenge and learn from each other this year. The English department has carefully considered AP students’ needs 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 sets the tone for our year.

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. This summer reading assignment is due **at the beginning of class on the first day of school**; 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.

If you have any questions, please feel free to reach out to me. Have a wonderful summer!

Mr. Small

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**PART I**

Choose **ONE** of the following:

* *The Scarlet Letter* by Nathaniel Hawthorne (ISBN: 978-1591281986)
* *East of Eden* by John Steinbeck (ISBN: 978-0140186390)
* *The Last of the Mohicans* by James Fenimore Cooper (ISBN: 978-0120000302)
* *My Antonia* Willa Cather (ISBN: 979-8560377724)

As you read your selected novel, you are required to keep a dialectical journal. Think of your dialectical journal as a series of conversations with the text. 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 assignments. You are required to have **25 total entries**, and **at least one entry for every chapter**. Each response in the “Comments and Questions” section must be **at least 75 words**.This part of the summer reading is worth **50 points**.

Expectations:

1. Please format your journals in the same way as the sample below. Use MLA format for your header, heading, and citations.
2. You should **NOT** collaborate with other students. Any assistance from the Internet, movies, or secondary sources such as Sparknotes, Shmoop, or Wikipedia will be viewed as cheating. You will be submitting your journals to Turnitin.com on the first day of school. Any instances of plagiarism will result in a zero (0) for the assignment.
3. Do **NOT** summarize the text. Instead, you should complete the following for the entries in the “Comments & Questions” section of your journal:

* **Question:** Ask about something in the passage that is unclear – be sure to reflect upon your question if/when you find your answer.
* **Connect:** Make a connection to your life, the world or another text.
* **Clarify:** Answer earlier questions to confirm/disaffirm a prediction.
* **Reflect:** Think deeply about what the passage means in a broad sense, not just about the characters in the story. What conclusions can you draw about the world, about human nature, or just the way things work?
* **Evaluate:** Make a judgment about the character(s), their actions, or what the author is trying to say.

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

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| **Quote** | **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” (O’Brien 2). | O’Brien chooses to end the first section of the novel with this sentence. He provides excellent visual details of what each solider 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. |

**PART II**

*The Narrative of Frederick Douglass* by Frederick Douglass (ISBN: 978-0486284996)

As you read, please annotate your novel. When you annotate, consider the following:

* Questions
* Sections you enjoy
* Connections to other texts (songs, films, novels, poems, etc.)
* Literary Devices
* Themes
* Motifs

While I will not collect your annotations, they will make your life easier when completing your Rhetorical Analysis Timed Writing **on the second day of school**. The Timed Writing will be worth **50 points**.

Use this link to see a copy of the rubric that will be used to score your essay: <https://lexingtonchristianorg-my.sharepoint.com/:b:/g/personal/ssmall_lexingtonchristian_org2/EYoPDVDJ_XZCnRnBBPjLiPgB5ApeYzZLDhjulNPQVblCEw?e=pE6atp>

**SUMMER READING CHECKLIST**

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| --- | --- | --- |
| **Assignment** | **Point Value** | **Due Date** |
| Read Independent Reading Choice | N/A | August 11 |
| Complete DJ assignment for Independent Reading Choice | 50 | August 11 |
| Read and annotate *The Narrative of Frederick Douglas* | N/A | August 11 |
| Timed Writing over *The Narrative of Frederick Douglass* | 50 | August 12 |