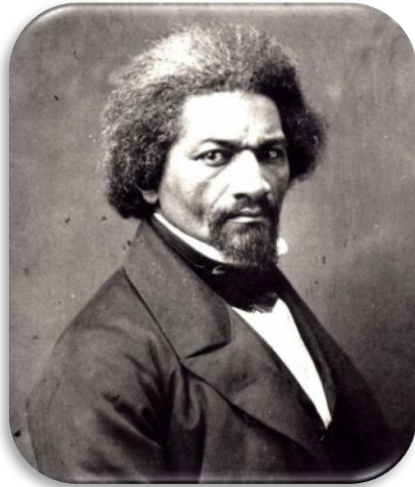


Summer Reading for AP English III



Welcome to AP English III! And congratulations for “crossing the line” to the advanced study of Language Arts. Many people today are content to do as little as possible, so we commend you for your commitment to do more than is required of you. We hope you will find the experience rewarding.

Your assigned reading this summer is **Frederick Douglass’s *Narrative of the Life of Frederick Douglass***. You aren’t required to buy a copy—you could check one out from us or from the public library—but we recommend that you get your own, so you can mark it up as you read.

Frederick Douglass published his *Narrative* in 1845, seven years after he had escaped from slavery in Maryland. By his own account, Douglass resolved to get free after teaching himself, and other slaves, to read. Disobeying their masters and risking painful

punishments, these slaves came together to educate themselves. “They came,” Douglass says, “because they wished to learn. Their minds had been starved by their cruel masters,” but they were determined to teach themselves. We trust that you will make the same commitment next year.

The Narrative is challenging, so don’t wait until the last day of summer to tackle it. If you come to the **AP Summer Camp (August 3-7)**, you can get help with this and with other essential AP Language skills. We’ll work with the book quite a bit the first few weeks of school, so read carefully, paying special attention to irony and imagery. **As you read, keep a reader-response journal on (a) irony and (b) images of hunger and eating. There’s a sample entry on the back. Read it carefully and follow its format. The specific requirements are these:**

- The journal must include 10 entries, approximately 100 words each. Five of the entries must focus on irony; five must focus on images of hunger and eating.
- Entries must come from all parts of the book (beginning, middle, and end).
- Each entry must include (a) a description of the irony or of the eating imagery, with embedded quotations and page number; and (b) your own commentary that explains the significance and effect of the irony or eating imagery.
- The journal must be typed, double-spaced, in a 12-point font.
- The journal is due the first full class period of the fall semester.
- The journal must be submitted through Turnitin.com, so make absolutely certain that your work is original.

To make sure you write your entries properly, we're going to require you to **submit your first two entries (one on irony and one on eating imagery) through Turnitin.com between July 20 and 24**, following the directions below. We will read your entries and respond with an email to let you know how you're doing, so **please check your email the week after you submit**. If you need to make changes to these first entries before submitting the final copy, you may.

| Last name begins with | Submit entries to | Class/section ID | Enrollment password |
|-----------------------|-------------------|------------------|---------------------|
| A—G | Ms. Beyette | 2734789 | beyette |
| H—O | Ms. Guthrie | 2734442 | guthrie |
| P—Z | Mr. Wood | 2733940 | wood |

Want to do more? Your junior year is full of exams, so how about some test prep? In the fall, you'll take the PSAT and the TAKS benchmark. In the spring, you'll take the exit-level TAKS test, the SAT, and the AP Language exam. Vocabulary and reading comprehension are crucial skills on all these tests, so the wise student would take time over the summer to hone these skills. You can get PSAT study guides from any bookstore and find review sites online. We'll be reading quite a bit of non-fiction next year, too, so you should get in the habit of reading newspapers and magazines, as well as keeping up with current events.

Mr. Wood maintains a website (www.edwinwood.com) with more information about the class and with links to online resources that will help you prepare for the year. You can check it over the summer, explore the links, and get a better idea of what the course will be like.

If you have any questions or concerns, feel free to email **Ms. Beyette at bbeyette@aisd.net; Ms. Guthrie at aguthrie@aisd.net; or Mr. Wood at ewood@aisd.net.**

Have a great summer!

Sample Journal Entry

Entry 1

Douglass was his master's child. If his father had favored him above other slaves, the white wife would have become jealous and angry. But if the master had kept him as a slave, he would inevitably have to whip him or watch as one of his white sons did the whipping for him. As a result, "the dictate of humanity" required him to sell "his own children to human flesh-mongers" in order to avoid being cruel (5).

So evil was the system of slavery that masters were often forced to actions that even they regretted. When society is built on injustice, it may be that even acts of kindness become ironically and inescapably bound to cruelty.