

AP Literature and Composition Summer Reading Assignment 2019-2020

Dear AP English Literature and Composition Student,
Welcome Back!

I would like to formally welcome you to Advanced Placement English Literature and Composition. This is a rigorous and rewarding course, designed to foster sophisticated reading, writing, and thinking habits. Ultimately, you will be expected and prepared to take the Advanced Placement Examination in English Language and Composition this coming May. I highly recommend you visit the College Board website for more information on the AP tests and programs (www.collegeboard.com/ap/students/index.html).

Seguin's AP Literature course, taken your senior year, "engages students in becoming skilled readers of prose written in a variety of periods, disciplines, and rhetorical contexts and in becoming skilled writers who compose for a variety of purposes" (AP Course Description). The focus is on rhetorical strategies in works of fiction and the intimate connection between writing, reading, speaking, and thinking. As you may anticipate, more is expected from a student of AP than from all other students. You are required to read the following text before the start of class: You may select whichever book you choose, and come prepared for a test and AP style essay the first week back. The books and assignments will be similar in length and complexity.

- *The Poisonwood Bible* by Barbara Kingsolver
 - *The Poisonwood Bible*, is a bestselling novel about a missionary family, the Prices, who in 1959 move from the U.S. state of Georgia to the village of Kilanga in the Belgian Congo, close to the Kwilu River.
- *The Grapes of Wrath* by John Steinbeck
 - *The Grapes of Wrath* is an American realist novel written by John Steinbeck and published in 1939. The book won the National Book Award and Pulitzer Prize for fiction, and it was cited prominently when Steinbeck was awarded the Nobel Prize in 1962.
- *Moby Dick* by Herman Melville
 - *Moby-Dick* is an 1851 novel by American writer Herman Melville. The book is sailor Ishmael's narrative of the obsessive quest of Ahab, captain of the whaling ship *Pequod*, for revenge on Moby Dick, the white whale that on the ship's previous voyage bit off Ahab's leg at the knee.

You will also be reading:

How to Read Literature Like a Professor

- The *How to Read Literature Like a Professor* project is designed for you to show you understand the content in the assigned chapters. You will be expected to create a presentation to be shared with us in Google by **August 18, 2019**. The presentation must cover all assigned chapters with what the author intended for you to take away from that chapter....what should you have learned from that lesson? This must be in your own words, **I DO NOT** want to see you taking it straight from the book... if that was the case I would be grading the author and not YOU. If your last name begins with the letters **A - H** you are responsible for chapters 1-9, Last names **I- N** you are responsible for chapters 10-19, and last names **O-Z** are chapters 20-27.

You will be responsible for obtaining copies of the selections, though you are not required to buy a copy—you could check one out from the public library or read the full text on the internet—but I recommend that you **get your own copy**, because you will be expected to annotate as you read.

All work is due on the first day of class of the 2019-2020 school year, which will be on August 19, 2019. I highly recommend that you wait until mid-July to even begin the reading, so that you are rested, and the information is fresh when you return. **I adhere strictly to a no-late work policy, and no extensions are ever given.**

Have a great summer~

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