

English III AP – Language and Composition Summer Reading List and Assignment 2018-2019

Welcome to the wonderful world of English III AP. Next year, we will journey through texts that explore the questions of what it means to be an American today and in the past, why our view of ourselves has changed, and what elements contribute to the changes. We will look at the various philosophical influences and the writings that emerged as a result of individuals and society questioning their surroundings and status quo. We will write constantly, reflecting on how these ideas are crafted by an author's writing style.

The AP English Language and Composition course is designed to substitute for a college composition course; therefore, you will be required to read complex texts with understanding as well as to enrich your prose in order to communicate your ideas effectively to mature audiences. You will learn how to analyze and interpret exemplary writing by discerning and explaining the author's use of rhetorical strategies and techniques, eventually applying many of these techniques to your own writing. In order to prepare for our seminars, you are required to read, annotate and complete assignments for a selection of texts over the summer. **You are expected to complete these assignments and submit them on the first day of class.**

Please note that though a few of these texts have been assigned in previous years, you must read the texts in their entirety yourself, and your annotations must be original. I expect every student to start off on the right, honest foot when beginning this class. This warning also includes any attempts at copying analysis from websites. Believe me, any sites you find (some accurate, some not so much), I have already found and read many times over. If you are struggling to understand a text, you are encouraged to read it first, read it again, and then look to credible sources to aid in your understanding. This adventure begins with YOUR mind at work to read and think from the first word to the last.

Have a fabulous summer, and I will see you in August!

Mrs. Marks

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SUMMER READINGS AND ASSIGNMENTS

Each of the following assignments must be completed by the first day of class. Completing them in the following order is strongly suggested.

FIRST:

Before beginning your official summer reading assignments...

See the additional handout uploaded to Slidell High's website, "The Art of Persuasion – A Basic Introduction to Rhetoric." Read it!

ASSIGNMENT - *PRINT this document and put it in your English III AP 1" binder.*

READ and ANNOTATE it. Know this information when school starts. You never know when a terminology pop-quiz might "pop" up!

SECOND:

READ Chapter 2, "Close Reading: The Art and Craft of Analysis" from *The Language of Composition*

Link to text - <http://lincolnparkhs.org/ourpages/auto/2012/11/15/50116588/Chapter%202.pdf>

You should PRINT this and mark it up with your notes as you move through it. It should reside with the following assignment in your English III 1" binder.

ASSIGNMENT - Complete all of the following tasks by either typing your responses or writing them on loose-leaf paper:

- Complete the bullet point questions on pg. 37 about the excerpted passage on pg. 36.
- On pages 40-42 - pay attention to these sample annotations; this is the level of detail and thought I am expecting from your annotations of *The Great Gatsby*.
- On pages 46-48 - pay attention to this sample essay. This is the type of writing we will be working on specifically in the first nine weeks and throughout the entire year. One of the AP examination essays, the rhetorical analysis essay, will require you to write in this manner, responding to texts. It is extremely

important to understand the expectations for your writing now, as you will have to produce work in this format and of this caliber in this class.

- Complete the assignment on pg. 48.
- Complete the assignment on pg. 51.
- Read JFK's Inaugural Address on pgs. 52-54. Complete the assignment on pg. 55 answering all questions about diction and syntax.
- You do NOT have to complete the essay assignment on pg. 57. However, be prepared to do so within the first week of school.
- Refer to the glossary of rhetorical terms on pgs. 58-59 when answering questions about Kennedy's speech.

THIRD:

READ *The Great Gatsby* by F. Scott Fitzgerald

It is strongly suggested that a personal copy of this novel be obtained and annotated. However, one may be checked out from the library and annotations can be done on post-it notes or as split-page notes. Use the attached annotation guidelines for correct format.

ASSIGNMENT – Annotate this novel using the attached annotation guidelines. Focus on annotating for the development of the American Dream and the results of its pursuit.

FOURTH:

WATCH *The Grapes of Wrath* (1940)

This award-winning film brought John Steinbeck's gripping American tale to the big screen.

About the Book:

First published in 1939, Steinbeck's Pulitzer Prize winning epic of the Great Depression chronicles the Dust Bowl migration of the 1930s and tells the story of one Oklahoma farm family, the Joads, driven from their homestead and forced to travel west to the promised land of California. Out of their trials and their repeated collisions against the hard realities of an America divided into haves and have-nots evolves a drama that is intensely human yet majestic in its scale and moral vision, elemental yet plainspoken, tragic but ultimately stirring in its human dignity.

A portrait of the conflict between the powerful and the powerless, of one man's fierce reaction to injustice, and of one woman's stoical strength, the novel captures the horrors of the Great Depression and probes the very nature of equality and justice in America.

Sensitive to fascist and communist criticism, Steinbeck insisted that "The Battle Hymn of the Republic" be printed in its entirety in the first edition of the book—which takes its title from the first verse: He is trampling out the vintage where the grapes of wrath are stored." As Don DeLillo has claimed, Steinbeck shaped a geography of conscience" with this novel where there is something at stake in every sentence." Beyond that—for emotional urgency, evocative power, sustained impact, prophetic reach, and continued controversy—***The Grapes of Wrath* is perhaps the most American of American classics.**

ASSIGNMENT – Watch the award-winning *The Grapes of Wrath* (1940 film version) and be prepared to discuss and write about it in class. As with *Gatsby*, you should focus your attention on this story's connection to the American Dream and be able to state your assertions with evidence from the film in class. Taking a few notes on characters, plot points, and theme(s) will benefit you.

*If any links to texts fail to work, every text can be found through Internet search engines. Email Mrs. Marks if help is needed.