

## AP English Literature and Composition

### Summer Reading Assignments 2020

Dear AP Literature and Composition Student,

Welcome to AP English Literature and Composition. In order to prepare you for the rigor of the AP English Literature and Composition course, you are being assigned a list of books and activities to get you acquainted with the work you will do during the year. Since the course expectations require you to read, comprehend, and analyze different types of genres, the summer assignments will help you polish some of the necessary tools for the task. This work will be collected on the first day you return from summer vacation.

Please buy a hard or paperback copy of the novels. Also, read and carefully follow the instructions for the assignments which are designed to help prepare you for the first quarter of the school year. I recommend that you stay away from online resources and summaries in lieu of reading the real thing. The following list includes the four books/plays that you are to read and annotate during the summer, and under each title, you will find the work that you are expected to complete for each book.

\*Thomas, C Foster, *How to Read Literature like a Professor: A Lively and Entertaining Guide to Reading Between the Lines*, ISBN- 9780060009427

As you read *How to Read Literature like a Professor*, annotate the book, highlight things you believe are important, and write questions and ideas on the margins. At the end of each chapter, list at least 3 of the most important points Foster makes within that chapter. Then, type all of that information into an outline document and label each section with its chapter name.

\*Sophocles, *Oedipus Rex*

Create a newspaper based on the different incidents which happen in the play. For your newspaper, you must write **3 articles** of at least 200 words each. Choose 3 topics from the following list to write your articles on:

- Oedipus' hubris (excessive pride)
- Tiresias' internal conflict
- Creon's anguish when Oedipus accuses him
- Oedipus's fall from grace and his own imposed exile

You must also create the following additional columns/sections for your newspaper:

- an obituary for Jocasta
- a product or sales advertisement
- an advice column with a question posed by either Oedipus, Tiresias, or Creon asking for advice
- a cartoon or cartoon strip summarizing either the conflict, climax, denouement, or Oedipus's hubris

In total, you should have 7 components within your newspaper (3 articles and 4 additional sections) as listed above.

\*Charles Dickens, *Great Expectations*

Complete a Major Work Chart for the novel. You are to complete this chart using the attachment I have provided. Since there are a fair amount of online resources available on the Internet, I would like to warn you against doing any cutting and pasting of those available resources.

\*Lorraine Hansberry, *A Raisin in the Sun*

Although *A Raisin in the Sun* and *Great Expectations* are completely different, they deal with the coming of age of a character. In a bildungsroman, the protagonist grows psychologically and morally from a young immature person to a matured individual when he/she realizes his place in the world. In a well-organized essay, compare and contrast one character from each story and determine, using evidence from the story, what moment shaped that realization and how it changed the character's view of his/ her world as a whole. Do not merely summarize the work but analyze how similar or different the characters are, the determining moment, the factors that make that realization possible, and how they changed the outcome of each character's life. This essay should be written formally, meaning that you are to refrain from using contractions and personal pronouns. **You are to write a minimum of 3 pages and you must have a thesis statement within your introduction.**

**\*\*See essay rubric attached as to how the essay assignment will be graded.**

Remember to have everything ready for the first day of class and don't forget that you are required to submit all work in MLA format. If you have any questions, please feel free to email me at [lbehrens@colemancarroll.org](mailto:lbehrens@colemancarroll.org) during the summer, and I will do my best to respond in a timely manner.

I hope you enjoy your summer, get plenty of rest, and find many adventures to occupy your time—especially in books!

Many blessings,

Ms. Laura Behrens  
Archbishop Coleman Carroll High School  
English Department Chair

Student's Name  
AP English Literature and Composition  
Date

**Major Work Data Sheet**  
**(Name of Story/Novel)**

<b>Title:</b>	
<b>Author:</b>	
<b>Date of Publication:</b>	
<b>Genre:</b>	
<b>Historical Information:</b> When does the novel take place and what socially or culturally significant events are occurring?	<b>Biographical Information:</b> What are some of the important facts about the author?
<b>Characteristics of the Genre:</b> What are the characteristics of that genre? Give examples	
<b>Plot Summary:</b> What are the main or most important events that occur in the novel?	<b>Author's Style:</b> Describe the author's syntax and diction. How does the author describes its characters? Provide quotes from the text that exemplifies their style.

**Memorable Quotes:** You may need to complete this on a separate sheet of paper. Write down 10 quotes from the beginning, middle, and the end of the novel and explain why they are important to one of the following: Setting, Conflict, Theme, or a Literary Device such as Simile, Metaphor, Personification, Imagery, Symbolism, or Allusion (Try to apply each term at least once)

**Characters:** Write down the name, role, and significance of the main characters and 2-3 adjectives that describe each character

<p><b>Setting:</b> Specific time, place, and era in which the novel takes place</p>	<p><b>Symbols:</b> any objects, people, or places that you feel are representative of something else. Make sure you tell the me symbol as well as what it symbolizes or represents</p>
<p><b>Possible themes:</b> What are three possible themes in the novel? Remember that a theme is what the author is trying to show us about human nature or life. What or how can we all relate to it?</p>	
<p><b>Significance of the opening scene:</b> Why is the opening scene important? What does it set up or how does it add to the rest of the novel?</p>	<p><b>Significance of the closing scene:</b> Why is the closing scene important? How does it conclude the novel or with what message does it leave us?</p>

# Literary Analysis Rubric

CATEGORY	4 Excellent	3 Good	2 Adequate	1 Needs Improvement	Score
<b>Attention Grabber</b>	The introductory paragraph has a strong hook or attention grabber that is appropriate for the audience. This could be a strong statement, a relevant quotation, statistic, or question addressed to the reader.	The introductory paragraph has a hook or attention grabber, but it is weak, rambling or inappropriate for the audience.	The author has an interesting introductory paragraph but the connection to the topic is not clear.	The introductory paragraph is not interesting AND is not relevant to the topic.	
<b>Focus or Thesis Statement</b>	The thesis statement names the topic of the essay without being formulaic.	The thesis statement names the topic of the essay.	The thesis statement outlines some or all of the main points to be discussed but does not name the topic.	The thesis statement does not name the topic AND does not preview what will be discussed.	
<b>Evidence and Examples</b>	All of the evidence and examples are specific, relevant and explanations are given that show how each piece of evidence supports the author's thesis.	Most of the evidence and examples are specific, relevant and explanations are given that show how each piece of evidence supports the author's thesis.	At least one of the pieces of evidence and examples is relevant and has an explanation that shows how that piece of evidence supports the author's thesis.	Evidence and examples are NOT relevant AND/OR are not explained.	
<b>Closing paragraph</b>	The conclusion is strong and leaves the reader solidly understanding the writer's position. Effective restatement of the position statement begins the closing paragraph.	The conclusion is recognizable. The author's position is restated within the first two sentences of the closing paragraph.	The author's position is restated within the closing paragraph, but not near the beginning.	There is no conclusion - the paper just ends.	
<b>Conventions</b>	Author makes no errors in grammar, spelling, or punctuation that distract the reader from the content.	Author makes 1-2 errors in grammar, spelling, or punctuation that distract the reader from the content.	Author makes 3-4 errors in grammar, spelling, or punctuation that distract the reader from the content.	Author makes more than 4 errors in grammar, spelling, or punctuation that distract the reader from the content.	
<b>Citations</b>	A Works Cited Page is included in MLA format, and parenthetical citations are used in MLA format.	A Works Cited Page is included, and parenthetical citations are used.	A Works Cited Page is included but no parenthetical citations are evident.	No Work Cited Page is included.	