

AP English Literature and Composition

Summer Reading Assignments 2021

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 when 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 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.

1) *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.

2) *Lorraine Hansberry, *A Raisin in the Sun*

A Raisin in the Sun deals 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 in the play 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 you are to refrain from using contractions and personal pronouns in your essay. **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 when you return to class and don't forget that you are required to submit all work in MLA format. The assignment should be printed and/or emailed to me in PDF format. If you have any questions, please feel free to email me at 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,

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