Dear Students and Parents:

Welcome to AP Literature and Composition! I look forward to the coming year, for it is another opportunity to explore the world and life through literature. During our class, we will study the style and structure of novels, poetry and plays, and examine how authors use language to convey deep ideas about human nature, considering themes such as truth, success and happiness. We will also look at the question of literary merit. What makes a work of literature worth reading? What is a canon of literature and how is it created? Although an important goal in AP Literature is to prepare students for the AP exam, I also hope to inspire students to become more thoughtful lifelong readers who can distinguish merely entertaining literature and profoundly enduring literature.

With this in mind, the summer assignment is to read two books selected from two different lists. The first list consists of classic works written before the twentieth-century, long recognized for their literary merit. They have appeared at one time or another as selections on the AP Literature exam final essay question. The second list consists of distinguished contemporary novels—some have been written by Nobel laureates, and all have earned critical and popular praise. Although not every one of these titles is firmly established in the canon of Western literature, all have been studied in AP classes worldwide. Perhaps of greater importance, these works are thematically-rich and eminently readable.

Before the end of this year, circle the books you wish to read, sign, and return the “Teacher Copy” of the assignment to me or your current English teacher. Keep the student copy of the assignment. Then, while reading each novel, track your thoughts, ideas, and impressions using a reader's notebook, a journal of your reading responses. The notebook entries are due the first day of class. Guidelines for your notebook are attached along with the reading choices. If you have any questions, do not hesitate to contact me by email for clarification.

Reading is a pleasure and a lifelong habit that brings rich rewards. I look forward to seeing your responses next year and exploring literature with you in all of its many forms.

Sincerely,

Mr. Nava

bnava@bayshoreschools.org
1. Read one book from each list (i.e., read two books) which can be obtained at any library, bookstore, or from websites such as Amazon.com. They are also available on devices such as the iPad and Kindle. **Decide which books you wish to read, circle them, and return the signed “Teacher Copy” of this paper before the end of the school year.** Make an informed decision when making your selection. Avoid choosing a book that you have used for a past assignment.

**List A (Pre-Twentieth Century)**

*Pride and Prejudice* by Jane Austin  
*The Adventures of Huckleberry Finn* by Mark Twain  
*The Red Badge of Courage* by Stephen Crane  
*Moby Dick* by Herman Melville  
*Crime and Punishment* by Fyodor Dostoyevsky  
*The Picture of Dorian Gray* by Oscar Wilde  
*Antigone* by Sophocles  
*Wuthering Heights* by Emily Bronte

**List B (Twentieth Century to Present)**

*In the Time of Butterflies* by Julia Alvarez  
*One Flew Over the Cuckoo’s Nest* by Ken Kesey  
*A Farewell to Arms* by Ernest Hemingway  
*The Bluest Eye* by Toni Morrison  
*Life of Pi* by Yann Martell  
*A Thousand Splendid Suns* by Khaled Hosseini  
*A Brave New World* by Aldous Huxley  
*A Handmaid’s Tale* by Margaret Atwood

2. On Google Docs, or in a reader’s notebook, keep track of your thoughts, ideas, responses, comments, and analyses of the books as you read them. For each text, you should complete a minimum of nine pages of entries (one side of a handwritten page is considered one page). **DO NOT PLAGIARIZE!**

3. Read carefully, paying attention not only to what the story is about, but also how the story is told. When you return to school in September, you will be asked to write an in-class essay on one of your books.  

**Due before class on the first day of school.**

Submit assignment electronically on Google Classroom by joining the class using this code:  

huqiitl
Suggestions for Reader’s Notebook Entries

Listed here are merely suggestions. The purpose of this assignment is to show that you have thoughtfully interacted with your chosen books. In your writing, make direct references to the texts often, and write about details from the books that prove that you have read them. While doing this, you may write eighteen pages in any way that makes sense to you. **DO NOT PLAGIARIZE!**

1. **Copy out an interesting quotation, symbolic passage, or incredible description from the text.**
   Explain why the passage caught your attention. Discuss how the passage relates to the story as a whole. You may employ the AP Language format of short passage analysis you learned last year.

2. **What confuses you? Write about things that don’t make sense to you.**
   Make a list of questions that have occurred to you as you read. Then try to answer one of your questions. Take a guess. Don’t worry about being right or wrong. See what you can come up with. Refer back to your questions after you have read more and respond again to them.

3. **Write about an image, word, or phrase that you notice keeps reappearing.**
   Discuss how it fits into the story as a whole. Discuss the meaning or symbolism of the image, word, or phrase.

4. **Predict where you think the story is going.**
   What do you think will happen to a particular character? What will be the climax or resolution of the story? What is the basis for your prediction? Identify clues or passages that seem to foreshadow future plot twists.

5. **Write about who tells the story and what you know about him/her?**
   Is there one narrator or are there multiple points of view? Who is/are the narrator(s)? Is he/she trustworthy? Do you believe everything he/she says? What is the narrator’s interest or bias in telling the story?

6. **Discuss how you would react if you were placed in the same situation as one of the characters in the novel.**
   Describe the situation and how the character behaved and then discuss what you would have done.

7. **Identify events or characters in the novel that you can relate to your own life.**
### Summer Reading Rubric

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Grade</th>
<th>Description</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>A+</td>
<td>Assignment goes “above and beyond” by satisfying the criteria of “A” level work according to the description below, and is either handed in <strong>one week in advance</strong> OR <strong>two pages more</strong> than the requirement.*</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>A</td>
<td>Responses are clear and genuine and reflect a conscientious reading by thoughtfully citing moments from the texts and commenting on this evidence with insightful considerations in a personal and/or analytic style. Total responses meet the 18 page requirement and are typed on Google Docs (double spaced, in an academic 12 point font with 1 inch margins) or neatly hand-written.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>B</td>
<td>Responses are clear and reflect reading by quoting moments from the texts and commenting on this evidence in a personal and/or analytic style. Total responses meet or are close to the 18 page requirement and are typed or hand-written.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>C</td>
<td>Responses contain ideas about the text and demonstrate a plausible reading, but writing seems unoriginal or lacks a genuine voice. Total responses are 10-15 pages and are typed or hand-written.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>D</td>
<td>Responses seem unoriginal. Total writing is 5-10 pages.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>F</td>
<td>Writing plagiarizes, is less than 5 pages, or was not turned in.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

*Due before class on the first day of school
LATE Assignments LOSE 10% PER DAY
*Extra points are awarded for creativity in format or style
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   **List A (Pre-Twentieth Century)**
   - Pride and Prejudice by Jane Austin
   - The Adventures of Huckleberry Finn by Mark Twain
   - The Red Badge of Courage by Stephen Crane
   - Moby Dick by Herman Melville
   - Crime and Punishment by Fyodor Dostoyevsky
   - The Picture of Dorian Gray by Oscar Wilde
   - Antigone by Sophocles
   - Wuthering Heights by Emily Bronte

   **List B (Twentieth Century to Present)**
   - In the Time of Butterflies by Julia Alvarez
   - One Flew Over the Cuckoo’s Nest by Ken Kesey
   - A Farewell to Arms by Ernest Hemingway
   - The Bluest Eye by Toni Morrison
   - Life of Pi by Yann Martell
   - A Thousand Splendid Suns by Khaled Hosseini
   - A Brave New World by Aldous Huxley
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   Due before class on the first day of school.

   Submit assignment electronically on [Google Classroom](https://classroom.google.com) by joining the class using this code:

   **huqiitl**

Please return this copy with your name and a parent/guardian signature: