

AP English Literature IV Summer Reading and Class Information

Introduction:

- “AP English Literature and Composition course engages students in the careful reading and critical analysis of imaginative literature. Through the close reading of selected texts, students deepen their understanding of the ways writers use language to provide both meaning and pleasure for their readers. As they read, students consider a works structure, style, and themes as well as such smaller scale elements as the use of figurative language, imagery, symbolism, and tone.”

Specific skills for success:

- Highly developed reading, writing, vocabulary and oral communication skills
- Effective time management
- Critical thinking, reading, and writing
- Effective study and organizational skills
- Constructive participation in class
- Effective collaborative group skills
- Perseverance to overcome challenging pieces of text and/or assignments

Out-of-class commitments:

- Nightly homework (determined by literary work or assignment)
- Selected reading and writing that align with a college course
- Individual or group projects

Summer Reading

- Scarlet Letter by Nathaniel Hawthorne.
 - o Assignment description found on page 2
 - o **Due Monday August 19**
- Book of Choice
 - o Assignment description found on page 2
 - o Book list found on page 3
 - o **Due Monday August 19**

Main text for the year:

Second Edition ©2017
Literature & Composition (ebook)
Reading, Writing, Thinking
Authors: Carol Jago (Santa Monica High School, CA) , Renee H. Shea (Bowie State University, MD) , Lawrence Scanlon (Brewster High School, NY) , Robin Dissin Aufses (Lycée Français de New York)
Publishers: Bedford, Freeman, and Worth

Assignment Sheet

Due Monday August 19

The Scarlet Letter:

The Scarlet Diary

Create a journal/diary for one of the three main characters. In that character's voice (first person), you will create at least **7** dated entries in sequential order based on what's happening at the time. This will allow you to comment on the major events of the plot. Here are some ideas to get you started:

- The first appearance of the character in the story
- Any meeting that your character has with another of the characters
- Any important event that occurs in the story
- Any physical/psychological changes in the character
- Where the character leaves the story

The story covers years in the character's life so you will observe changes in the character's acceptance in the community, the physical and/or mental condition of your character, and his/her relationship with the other characters. The main characters who will appear in your journal will be Hester Prynne, Pearl, Rev. Arthur Dimmesdale, and Roger Chillingworth. You may choose any of these as your "journal writer", but all of them will appear in your journal.

Here is a sample journal entry: *October 2, 1641 My heart knows not the words to beg of my Lord forgiveness for what I have done this day. I weep now, in solitude, for I realize that this evening has brought upon my soul a weight that I may never ever be released from. I have spent hours before my looking glass, weeping, praying, begging the Lord's mercy, for on this night I have condemned my soul to eternal damnation.....etc.*

You may write in the above style or our modern style of writing. Revise and correct spelling, grammar, etc., so it looks nice. Be creative about what your diary looks like.

Book of Choice:

Theme Analysis:

- On an 8 ½ x 11 inch sheet of paper you are going to state a theme you believe is found in your book and explain through using textual evidence, how the theme you have chosen was illustrated during the novel.

Theme Representation:

- After choosing and elaborating on a possible theme, you are going to create a physical 3D symbol that represents the theme you have chosen for your book. You will need to attach your 8 ½ x 11 theme analysis sheet to your 3D model.

Book of Choice List

All of the books listed below have appeared on the AP Literature and Composition exam in previous years.

- *The Aeneid* - Virgil
- *All the Light We Cannot See* - Anthony Doerr
- *Crime and Punishment*- Fyodor Dostoevsky
- *Death in Venice* - Thomas Mann
- *Great Expectations* - Charles Dickens
- *Heart of Darkness* - Joseph Conrad
- *Homegoing* - Yaa Gyasi
- *The Iliad* - Homer
- *Madame Bovary* - Gustave Flaubert
- *A Passage to India* - E.M. Foster
- *Things Fall Apart* - Chinua Achebe
- *The Kite Runner* - Khaled Hosseini
- *Beloved* - Toni Morrison
- *Brave New World* - Aldous Huxley
- *Jane Eyre* - Charlotte Brontë
- *The Mayor of Casterbridge* - Thomas Hardy
- *Invisible Man* - Ralph Ellison
- *Pride and Prejudice* - Jane Austen

Some of the novels may contain mature content. It is up to the student and parent to select novels from the list.