



Advanced Placement English Literature & Composition Summer Reading

Choose **ONE** novel or play of literary merit to read over the summer. This work may be contemporary or classic, but you will be required to defend your choice and to analyze and refer to it in discussions and writing assignments. The first few weeks of the course we will focus on your chosen work, beginning the process of close analysis.

As you read, look for defining moments – those that are perhaps stylistically innovative or are socially, politically, or ideologically provocative or are universal in their appeal. No matter your method, note these moments that are significant to you; some students will highlight the text, others will use Post-it-Notes, others will simply bookmark them. The important thing is to savor these moments with an eye toward sharing them in our course.

Choosing a work is not like entering a marriage – if you don't like it, choose another one you want to spend some time with. Maybe it's a book you've always heard about but never got the chance to read. Or, maybe it's something that just won the Pulitzer Prize. Perhaps, it's a title you've seen everyone reading on the plane as you travel this summer. However you choose, enjoy the experience!

Suggested Titles

Jane Eyre – Charlotte Bronte
Faust – Johann Goethe
Heart of Darkness – Joseph Conrad
Oedipus Rex – Sophocles
Crime and Punishment – Fyodor Dostoevsky
All the Light We Cannot See – Anthony Doerr
The Poisonwood Bible – Barbara Kingsolver
Snow Falling on Cedars – David Guterson
100 Years of Solitude – Gabriel Garcia Marquez
The Bonesetter's Daughter – Amy Tan
Obasan – Joy Kogawa
Bless Me, Ultima – Anaya Rudolfo
The Road – Cormac McCarthy
The Cherry Orchard – Anton Chekov
Their Eyes Were Watching God – Zora Neale Hurston

Wuthering Heights – Emily Bronte
Great Expectations – Charles Dickens
Lysistrata – Aristophanes
The Picture of Dorian Gray – Oscar Wilde
A Doll's House – Henrik Ibsen
Beloved – Toni Morrison
A Thousand Splendid Suns – Khaled Hosseini
Equus – Peter Shaffer
Oryx & Crake – Margaret Atwood
Dreaming in Cuban – Cristina Garcia
Madame Bovary – Gustave Flaubert
The Namesake – Jhumpa Lahiri
The Grapes of Wrath – John Steinbeck
Death of a Salesman – Arthur Miller

Or, consider award-winners from the following lists <http://www.lukemastin.com/testing/awards/cgi-bin/awards.cgi>

If you have questions, comments, or concerns, please contact instructors

Cameron.Murray@Keysschools.com or KristenKapfer@keysschools.com or
Kerri.McLean@Keysschools.com

We love to talk about literature!