

Grade 9

Theme:
Growing Up

Select one book from the following options:

The Secret Life of Bees (Sue Monk Kidd)
A Tree Grows in Brooklyn (Betty Smith)
The Curious Incident of the Dog in the Nighttime (Mark Haddon)
When I Was Puerto Rican (Esmeralda Santiago)

Essential Questions:

What does the main character learn about his/her world?

What does the main character learn about himself/herself?

What significant experiences help shape the main character?

Who influences (hurts or helps) the character?

Assignment: Take notes on the aforementioned questions regarding the main character's journey throughout the novel and be prepared to discuss and write about the idea of growing up with support from the novel.

Grade 10

Theme:
Sources and Abuses of Power

Select one book from the following options:

The Milk of Birds (Sylvia Whitman)
I Am Malala (Malala Yousafzai)
Between Shades of Grey (Ruta Sepetys)
A Thousand Splendid Suns (Khaled Hosseini)

Essential Questions:

What response is required when basic human rights are violated?

What is the ultimate source of power?

Assignment: Annotate the book as you read for details pertaining to setting, characterization, and sources/abuses of power. Use the Essential Questions to guide your annotations. Be prepared to discuss and write about these topics, supporting your answers with examples from the novel.

Grade 11

Theme:
American Identity

English 120 & 121

Select one book from the following options:

The Bean Trees (Barbara Kingsolver)
Their Eyes Were Watching God (Zora Neale Hurston)
The Chosen (Chaim Potok)
Sing, Unburied, Sing (Jesmyn Ward)
Homegoing (Yaa Gyasi)

A.P. Language:

Read the following books (BOTH)

The Jungle (Upton Sinclair)
Fast Food Nation (Eric Schlosser)

Essential Questions:

What does it mean to be an American?
How does the story contribute to the character, or *ethos*, of America?
How does the novel speak to the theme of inclusion/exclusion in American society?

Assignment: Take notes on the aforementioned questions regarding the novel's exploration of America and American society. Be prepared to discuss and write about what these novels assert regarding America, employing support from the novel.

Essential Questions:

How have the publication of these two books resulted in massive change in the producing, processing, packaging, and serving food in the United States?

Assignment: Complete the attached packet containing questions for each of the novels. There will be an in-class essay pertaining to the books on the first week of school.

https://docs.google.com/file/d/1aMSwoLg2xARnWJLwc_po7cImsF5HGg0h/edit?usp=docslist_api&filetype=msword

Grade 12

<p>Theme: Appearance vs. Reality</p>	<p style="text-align: center;">English 110 & 111</p> <p>Select one book from the following options:</p> <p><i>The Nightingale</i> (Kristin Hannah) <i>The Glass Castle</i> (Jeanette Walls) <i>Water for Elephants</i> (Sara Gruen) <i>Thirteen Blue Little Envelopes</i> (Maureen Johnson)</p>	<p>Essential Questions:</p> <p>Why are appearances sometimes deceiving? How do you distinguish between the illusion and reality? What is the result when deception leads you astray?</p> <p>Assignment:</p> <p>Annotate the book as you read for details pertaining to the following questions:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none">1. In what way does this novel blur the lines between appearance and reality? And what does that contrast reveal about human nature?2. Describe the main character and her duplicity in the text. How does she change over the course of the novel and what influences these changes?3. Describe the setting of this novel. How does the time and place influence the outcome of the story? <p>*Be prepared to write about these topics and support your answers with examples from the novel .</p>
<p>Theme: The impact of environment on our value system</p>	<p>A.P. Lit:</p> <p>Select either <i>Americanah</i> on its own OR both <i>The Color Purple</i> and <i>1984</i>.</p> <p><i>Americanah</i> (Chimamanda Ngozi Adichie) <i>The Color Purple</i> (Alice Walker) <i>1984</i> (George Orwell)</p>	<p>Essential Questions:</p> <p>What is it about environment that makes us behave in ways that can often be destructive? How is personal identity impacted by the environment around us? Is morality personal or environmental?</p> <p>These questions will be explored in depth through discussion and writing.</p>

