

Advanced Placement English Literature and Composition 2020 Summer Assignments

“AP English Literature and Composition is an introductory college-level literary analysis course. Students cultivate their understanding of literature through reading and analyzing text as they explore concepts like character, setting, structure, perspective, figurative language, and literary analysis in the context of literary works” (“AP English Literature and Composition: The Course/AP Central--The College Board”). Summer work is designed to help students better prepare for the rigors and expectations of this college-level course.

This year, Advanced Placement English Literature and Composition students will complete **three assignments** for summer work, which are listed below. ALL THREE ARE REQUIRED.

I. **Choose one of the prompts from the Common Application for Universities OR an essay for a college to which you plan to apply.** A developed draft is due on the first day of class. Click [here](#) for more details regarding this assignment.

II. **Read the Upper School Common Summer Read:**

Craig and Fred: A Marine, a Stray Dog, and How They Saved Each Other by Craig Grossi
ISBN-13: 978-0062693396

Assignment: Read and enjoy the memoir so that you can participate in school-wide discussions of the narrative. **There is no written assignment for this book.**

III. **Read *The Great Gatsby* by F. Scott Fitzgerald and complete the assignment below.***

In addition to our Upper School Common Read, Advanced Placement English Literature and Composition students will also read *The Great Gatsby* by F. Scott Fitzgerald. This classic American novel follows Jay Gatsby’s rise to fame and fortune and his desire to obtain the elusive American Dream. It will serve as an excellent skills review for us as we sharpen our critical thinking and writing skills.

Click [here](#) for a digital link to the assignment, or go to the Frederica Academy website and search under **Summer Reading and Summer Work.***

I.

**Class of 2021
College Essay Assignment**

In addition to summer reading, **all rising seniors** are required to write one college application essay. Both instructor and student will continue to edit and revise these essays during the first two weeks of school. **This essay will be due on the first day of class.**

College Essay Assignment

Rising seniors will be required to submit a college essay upon their arrival back to Frederica Academy in August. The essay must be between 250-650 words. Below are the seven Common Application essay prompts. Choose either one of the prompts below OR one for the college(s) to which you plan to apply.

1. Some students have a background, identity, interest, or talent that is so meaningful they believe their application would be incomplete without it. If this sounds like you, then please share your story.
2. The lessons we take from obstacles we encounter can be fundamental to later success. Recount a time when you faced a challenge, setback, or failure. How did it affect you, and what did you learn from the experience?
3. Reflect on a time when you questioned or challenged a belief or idea. What prompted your thinking? What was the outcome?
4. Describe a problem you've solved or a problem you'd like to solve. It can be an intellectual challenge, a research query, an ethical dilemma - anything that is of personal importance, no matter the scale. Explain its significance to you and what steps you took or could be taken to identify a solution.
5. Discuss an accomplishment, event, or realization that sparked a period of personal growth and a new understanding of yourself or others.
6. Describe a topic, idea, or concept you find so engaging that it makes you lose all track of time. Why does it captivate you? What or who do you turn to when you want to learn more?
7. Share an essay on any topic of your choice. It can be one you've already written, one that responds to a different prompt, or one of your own design.

Directions: To help you better develop a strong, personal response to the Common App essay prompts, spend a few minutes answering the questions below. Once you have answered these questions, decide which prompt will best help you showcase yourself. This essay is, more than anything else, an opportunity for you to show college admissions directors what makes **you uniquely you**, so spend some time reflecting this summer!

1. What qualities and characteristics most define you? Why are these qualities important to know when understanding who you are? (Examples: humor, integrity, ambition, curiosity, creativity, etc.) Don't focus on what you think the colleges want to see; rather, think about who you are or who you want to become.
2. Tell a story about yourself that gives an example of a time when you exhibited one or two of the qualities above. The story does not have to be completely accurate as long as it doesn't take too much liberty with the truth.
3. Look at what you've written, and review the Common App prompts. Which prompt will help you best capture those qualities that make you uniquely you? Write your response.

A couple of things to remember:

- Unless you have a truly compelling story, avoid writing about the pandemic, COVID 19, or the quarantine.
- Your essay alone will not get you into college nor will it keep you out of college. It is merely another point of information. However, it can be what sways an admissions director who is ambivalent about you.
- Don't limit yourself to those "big days," like playoffs, bar mitzvahs, death of a loved one, etc. A story about the mundane can be just as revealing. Click [here](#) to read an essay about a trip to Costco.
- Metaphors are often excellent ways to draw parallels between the qualities you want to highlight and the story you tell. See if a metaphor emerges, and go with it.
- The essay must have a clear beginning, middle, and end.
- Be mindful of the audience (college admissions directors), purpose (getting into college), and tone (your attitude about getting into college) as you write this response.

Frederica Academy Upper School
Summer Reading 9th, 10th, 11th, and 12th Grades
Common Read*

Summer reading is an important part of the curriculum in the Frederica Academy Upper School. Not only does it provide us with a common ground on which to stand at the beginning of the school year, it also keeps young minds active and engaged during the summer. This year, students and faculty will learn what it means to be “stubbornly positive” through Craig Grossi’s inspirational story, *Craig and Fred: A Marine, a Stray Dog, and How They Saved Each Other*. We hope to invite Mr. Grossi to speak to the Upper School this fall. Click [here](#) for a video introducing Craig and Fred’s story.

***Rising Seniors and AP Instructors will have additional reading requirements and assignments.**

Craig and Fred: A Marine, a Stray Dog, and How They Saved Each Other
by Craig Grossi

ISBN-13: 978-0062693396

From the Back Cover

The uplifting and unforgettable true story of a U.S. marine, the stray dog he met on an Afghan battlefield, and how they saved each other. . . .

In 2010, Sergeant Craig Grossi was doing intelligence work for marine RECON—the most elite fighters in the Corps—in a remote part of Afghanistan. While on patrol, he spotted a young dog “with a big goofy head and little legs” who didn’t run in a pack like most strays they’d encountered. They shared a piece of beef jerky, and then the dog began to follow him. “Looks like you made a friend,” another marine yelled. Grossi heard, “Looks like a ‘Fred.’” The name stuck.

Fred not only stole Craig’s heart; he also won over the RECON fighters, who helped Craig smuggle the dog into heavily fortified Camp Leatherneck in a duffel bag—risking jail and Fred’s life. With the help of a crew of DHL workers, a sympathetic vet, and a military dog handler, Fred eventually made it home to Craig’s family in Virginia.

Months later, when Craig returned to the U.S., it was Fred’s turn to save the wounded marine from post-traumatic stress. Today, Craig and Fred are touching lives nationwide, from a swampy campground in Louisiana to the streets of Portland, Oregon, and everywhere in between.

An inspiring tale of resilience and what Craig calls “stubborn optimism,” *Craig & Fred* reminds us how love and perseverance can transform our lives.



Graded Assignments: The following outlines the assignments and requirements for the summer reading. These assessments will be your first major grade of the semester.

Reading Assessment: You will take a reading assessment that will cover major plot details as well as information about the characterization, conflict, and themes of the memoir. The assessment date and format will be determined by the instructor.

Essay: You will write your first essay on *Craig and Fred* after we finish discussing the memoir. The due date and format will be determined by the instructor.

III: AP English Literature and Composition Summer Reading

Assignment: As you read the novel, you will be noting important passages regarding setting, character, conflict, narration (point of view), figurative language, and theme. For each chapter, you will be given a specific literary element to analyze. Find a passage that provides insight for a specific literary element (see chart below), and write the passage below on the chart below. Using the questions below to guide your commentary, write a sentence or two discussing its function in the chapter and/or novel. **Please complete this assignment digitally.**

This assignment is due on the first day of class.

The following questions will help you develop commentary for each of the passages you choose to discuss.

Device	Questions to consider
Character	How is the character described? How and why has the character changed? What does the character suggest about the meaning of the work as a whole (theme)?
Conflict	What is the conflict? What does it suggest about the character, setting, theme, or narration?
Narration	What is the point of view? Is the narrator reliable? Why or why not? How does the narration function to reveal something about the story?
Setting	Where and when is the story set? How does the setting function to reveal something about the characters, conflicts, or themes?
Figurative Language	How do the similes, metaphors, imagery, symbolism, etc. function in the story? What do they suggest about characters, conflicts, themes, etc?
Theme	What is the meaning of the work as a whole?

For each chapter, find a passage that illustrates the assigned element listed below. Highlight the passage in your book, and note the page number on the chart. Next, write a

couple of sentences that discuss the function of the device in the chapter and/or novel.

Chapter and Literary Element	Passage Page #	Commentary
Chapter 1 Setting OR Narration (point of view)		
Chapter 2 Character OR Conflict		
Chapter 3 Character OR Conflict		
Chapter 4 Character		
Chapter 5 Figurative Language		
Chapter 6 Character		
Chapter 7 Figurative Language		
Chapter 8 Narration (point of view)		
Chapter 9 Theme		

**Advanced Placement
English Literature and Composition
Summer Work**