



City of Brockton

BROCKTON PUBLIC SCHOOLS

Michael P. Thomas ♦ Interim Superintendent of Schools

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AP English Literature & Composition 2020-2021 Summer Assignment

Requirement: Please read one of the primary and secondary works below. I have included a study guide to help you with your notes, or, you can take notes in any way you see fit. By taking notes, or completing a study guide, you will have a guide that highlights the aspects of a work you find most interesting, and those are the things you're most likely to write about on the exam.

In addition to taking notes, for each work, complete an introductory paragraph using one of the sample Question 3 prompts. Please use a different prompt (within the last 10 years) for each work. Below is the link for the list of prompts.

https://mseffie.com/iOpeners/Open_Questions.pdf

Please note, the summer assignment will be addressed during the first week of classes.

Suggestions for Summer Reading:

Primary Works

Emma Jane Austen

Jane Eyre Charlotte Bronte

Wuthering Heights Emily Bronte

Don Quixote Miguel Cervantes

White Noise Don DeLillo

Bleak House Charles Dickens

Great Expectations Charles Dickens

The Grapes of Wrath John Steinbeck

Of Mice and Men John Steinbeck

The Bonesetter's Daughter Amy Tan

Anna Karenina Leo Tolstoy

Black Boy Richard Wright

The Kite Runner Khaled Hosseini

Their Eyes Were Watching God Zora Neale Hurston

Sons and Lovers D.H. Lawrence

The Magic Mountain Thomas Mann

One Hundred Years of Solitude Gabriel Garcia Marques

Moby Dick Herman Melville

The Catcher in the Rye J.D. Salinger

The Sound and the Fury William Faulkner

Tess of the D'Urbervilles Thomas Hardy

The Scarlett Letter Nathaniel Hawthorne

Crime and Punishment Fyodor Dostoyevsky



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Secondary Works:

(The secondary work is your just-in-case work. The free response question may not fit any aspect of your primary works. This is highly unlikely, but if this happens, you need to have something prepared. The other reason to prepare a secondary work is simply to have more options. They're all recognized classics of which AP Readers will approve. They're short, and most important, they're all works that have been perfect fits with many open essay questions.)

Novellas and Short Novels:

The Stranger Albert Camus
Notes from the Underground Fyodor Dostoyevsky
The Old Man and the Sea Ernest Hemingway
The Turn of the Screw Henry James*
Death of Venice Thomas Mann
Ballads of the Sad Café Carson McCullers
Billy Budd Herman Melville
A Sentimental Journey Lawrence Sterne
The Death of Ivan Ilyich Leo Tolstoy
Candide Voltaire

Plays

Waiting for Godot Samuel Beckett
A Man for All Seasons Robert Bolt
The Cherry Orchard Anton Chekov
The Seagull Anton Chekov
Medea Euripedes*
A Doll's House Henrik Ibsen*
Hedda Gabler Henrik Ibsen
The Crucible Arthur Miller
Death of a Salesman Arthur Miller
Long Days Journey Into Night Eugene O'Neil
Antigone Sophocles*
Oedipus Rex Sophocles*
A Streetcar Name Desire Tennessee Williams
The Glass Menagerie Tennessee Williams

Study Guide

Plot – You want to avoid plot summary in your essay, but it's still important to remember what happens and *why*. Chapter by chapter or scene by scene, note what happens but focus on the major conflicts of the text. The details help you remember the specific chronology of the narrative; thinking about the larger conflicts puts the story in perspective.

Character – Who's who? This list could be as simple as remembering how to spell their names (very useful indeed if a Chekov play or a Tolstoy novel is one of your works) Or it can be as detailed as you want it to be

Themes - What's the message or moral of the story? Avoid oversimplification



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Symbols - Scarlet letters, green lights, white whales; what do they stand for and how do they help the author achieve his or her purpose?

Quotations – “If you have tears, prepare to shed them now.” (That’s from *Julius Caesar*, in case you were wondering.) In the free response (open essay), it’s important to provide support for your assertions, and even more important to avoid plot summary. Quoting your chosen work and explaining how the quote relates to the prompt demonstrates to the reader that you know and understand the work. Memorizing the quotes, and understanding what each means, allows you to write with more confidence