AP Literature Summer Reading Project 2025 - 2026

AP Literature and Composition Summer Reading Assignment

Welcome to AP English Literature! An important component of the English program is the Summer Reading assignment (SRA). The overall goal of the SRA is to introduce students to various types of literature with the purpose of annotating character, setting, structure, and narration to assist with students obtaining a deeper understanding from the text.

"The AP English Literature and Composition course focuses on reading, analyzing, and writing about imaginative literature (fiction, poetry, drama) from various periods. Students engage in close reading and critical analysis of imaginative literature to deepen their understanding of the ways writers use language to provide both meaning and pleasure. As they read, students consider a work's structure, style, and themes, as well as its use of figurative language, imagery, and symbolism" (College Board).

As this is a college-level course, some texts will cover more mature content and language, so an appropriate level of maturity is expected from students.

Project Overview

Students will form groups of 3–4 members and select an AP-level novel (subject to teacher approval). As a group, they will develop a reading schedule that divides the book into three sections. After reading each section, the group will meet (virtually or in person) to hold and record a literature circle discussion.

Each member will complete a Lit Circle Job for each meeting and submit their completed role sheet and group discussion recording. Students will also annotate the text, focusing specifically on character development and setting.

Books can be purchased in person (<u>half price books</u> in Mesa has great prices), online (amazon, bwbooks, thriftbooks), or checked out through the library.

Reach out to Rainey with any questions: <u>arainey1@jocombs.org</u> or call/text at 480-256-2441.

First steps:

- 1. Form a Group (3–4 students)
 - Collaborate with classmates to form a group.
 - Each student must only be part of one group.

2. Select and Get Approval for Your Book

- Choose an AP-appropriate literary novel (from the recommended list or propose your own).
- Submit the title to Ms. Rainey for approval by 6/2/2025.

3. Create Your Group Reading Plan

- Divide the book into three equal parts.
- Create a reading schedule with dates for each discussion.
- Submit your timeline and meeting details (dates, times, format) to the teacher by 6/2/2025.

Hold Lit Circle Discussions

- After finishing each third of the book, meet as a group to discuss.
- Record a video of the discussion.
- Each student completes a Lit Circle Job (rotated each session):
 - Discussion Director
 - Character Captain
 - Connector
 - Literary Luminary
- Submit your job sheet and discussion recording by the due date for each third.

Annotating Your Texts:

- While reading, annotate for:
 - Character Characters in literature allow readers to study and explore a range of values, beliefs, assumptions, biases, and cultural norms represented by those characters.
 - Setting Setting and the details associated with it not only depict a time and place, but also convey values associated with that setting.

Watch this short video for information about annotating books.

What you will turn in:

For each of the three sections:

- Group's recorded discussion
- Your completed Lit Circle Job sheet
- Ongoing annotated text (to be checked at the start of the school year)

All discussion due dates will be dictated by the calendar submitted to me by June 2, 2025.

Reminders:

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- Discussions should be thoughtful, analytical, and grounded in the text.
- You are encouraged to ask questions, cite passages, and explore literary devices.
- Ms. Rainey will drop into at least one of your meetings to listen and offer guidance.