12 AP Summer Reading Assignment
Mrs. Green

Hello Future 12 AP Students,

Look outside! The leaves are green, the dandelion seeds are floating by, and the sun is shining. Don't worry; we will soon be released for summer. I am daydreaming about open stretches of time. I am *also* already planning my reading schedule for the months ahead. If that last sentence made you groan, you may be signed up for the wrong class. You love to read, right? Because English 12 AP: Advanced Placement Literature is a ***reading intensive*** course; it is designed for students who want to immerse themselves in the written word, be surrounded by book nerds, and lose track of time with others who feel the same. I am excited to explore literature with you through in-depth conversations, projects, writings, poetry memorizations, storytelling, and most of all *reading, reading,* and more *reading*.

In preparation for that, you will need to read THREE books over the summer. I strongly suggest that you go to the library or to a bookstore to select your books so that you can both browse through the physical copies and speak with the very smart and well-read people who work there. Your selections should not overlap with previous HS summer reading selections, should not be books from previous English classes, and should not be major texts that we will read: *Frankenstein, Catcher in the Rye, Metamorphosis, Bartleby the Scrivener, Song of Solomon, Kite Runner.* Most of all, your selections should excite, entice, and please your intellect. Along with reading the books, you will also complete the following:

Book One - Literature: Something Old - MUST BE YOUR BOOK TO WRITE IN. Please reachout to Mrs. Green via email if you need assistance purchasing a book.
This must be something written prior to 1980 that has literary merit. It must be found on a suggested English 12 AP reading list. These suggested reading lists are easily accessible online. It must be a bound text, but it can be epic poetry, a collection of poems, prose, or drama. Do not use an online text for this assignment. It must be a physical book that you own.

- For this assignment, you will submit an annotated copy of the book to me on the first day of class. Annotations should be in the form of writing directly into the book. You should write your thoughts, note your questions, and highlight or underline as you see fit. This will allow me to see your annotation skills and your thought process as you read difficult texts. You must own the book in order to complete this assignment. If you have a hard time acquiring a book, please contact me.

Book Two - Literature or Literary Nonfiction: Something "New"
This book must be something contemporary, preferably from 1980 - today, and it must also have literary merit. You may also look to the English 12 AP reading lists for suggestions, or you might want to visit a local independent bookstore and talk to the knowledgeable people there about their current literature suggestions. (Examples- Toni Morrison, Margaret Atwood, Kazuo Ishiguro, Colson Whitehead, Ian McEwan, Ocean Vuong, Ta-Nehisi Coates, Maya Angelou…)

- For this assignment, you must write a 500 - 1000 word letter to the author about how the book impacted you, specifically referencing how reading it impacted you this particular summer. You will include direct and specific instances of what you did this summer, how you felt during your summer, how the themes and plot points of the book juxtaposed or aligned with YOUR FEELINGS and YOUR EXPERIENCES. This letter should have a strong writer's voice that sounds uniquely like YOU. The piece must be prepared to turn in to me on day one of class.

Book Three - Something Just for You
This book should NOT be literature. It should be easy and fun! It could be shelved in the YA, mystery, romance, or thriller section. It should hopefully keep you awake later than you wished. Read something trashy!! (Examples- Jodi Picolt, Emily Henry, David Baldachi, John Grisham, Angie Thomas, Jenny Han, Stephen King, Bill Bryson, Kristin Hannah, Zakiya Dalila Harris, Julia Quinn, Many Current NYTimes Best Sellers…)

- For this assignment, you must write and publish a book review either on Amazon or on Good Reads. Please take a screenshot of the review to share with me. You can put the screen shot on the same Google Doc as the author letter.

Teacher Conference - How we talk about books
During the first 2 weeks of school, I will meet with you, during class, QRT, or after school, to discuss your summer reading selections. You need to be able to discuss characters, themes, connections, and writing styles of your texts and your writing in a knowledgeable way. This discussion will affirm your readiness for the class rigor and content.

** A word of warning. Many books have adult themes and content. It is your responsibility to select a book that is personally acceptable to you and that you will be comfortable discussing and writing about. .

** Does this sound fun to you? It should. Reading is a pleasure. I look forward to our time together. Enjoy!

** If you are assigned this class for Spring Semester, I strongly recommend that you complete the assignment over the summer. Winter break does not allow adequate time for this assignment.

Have a fantastic summer!

Ms. Green