

Fairfield Ludlowe High School

AP Literature and Composition Summer Assignments

Dear 2025 – 2026 Advanced Placement Literature Students:

Welcome to AP Literature and Composition. Following is the list of summer assignments. These assignments are designed to prepare you for the kinds of work we will be doing in AP Literature throughout the school year.

Contact Information:

- Ms Ingram: jingram@fairfieldschools.org
Summer Work Google Classroom Code: **eef4ff4q**
 - Ms. Brownrigg: cbrownrigg@fairfieldschools.org
Summer Work Google Classroom Code: **27pob4xe**
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1. READING

Hard copies of these resources are available in the Ludlowe LLC. You will have a test on these texts on the second day of class, so please be sure to complete the reading and notetaking/responding assignments faithfully.

- *Jane Eyre* (Norton Critical edition), a novel by Charlotte Brontë
- *Sound and Sense*, chapters 1-3
 - Under no circumstances should you use SparkNotes or other similar aids in developing your interpretations of the assigned reading.
 - Be sure to read BOTH the content of the *Sound and Sense* chapters AND the poems within them.
 - We encourage you to discuss these readings with one another and to share ideas throughout the summer.

LINKS to ELECTRONIC COPIES

(Use these only if you absolutely cannot get copies from the FLHS bookroom.)

Here is the [Sora link for *Jane Eyre*](#).

An electronic copy of the *Sound and Sense* chapters can be found on the Google Classroom Sites. Ms. Ingram: **eef4ff4q** / Ms. Brownrigg: **27pob4xe**

2. NOTE TAKING/RESPONDING:

Jane Eyre:

On the following pages, you will find a reading guide for *Jane Eyre*. Be sure to take notes on the book to prepare for class discussions and essays. **Your notes on *Jane Eyre* are for your use and will be checked, not graded.** However, you WILL be able to use your notes during graded discussions and the first in-class essay of the year, so it is important that you complete the work thoughtfully and thoroughly. You will need to be able to refer to direct passages from the works.

NOTE: Do not use AI to complete this work. Do not copy other students' work. Any typed notes will need to be submitted to Google Classroom **on the first day of class** (the class period before the test), and they will be checked for editing history and sharing.

Sound and Sense:

Each chapter of *Sound and Sense* contains numerous poems with prompts. Though we expect you to read and THINK about all the poems in each chapter, you only have to complete written responses for the following 8 poems. To complete these thoroughly, we recommend that you plan to spend an hour reading and responding to each assigned poem. **This work will be collected on the first day of class and graded.** Be sure to respond thoroughly to all parts of each prompt and to integrate language from the poems (words, phrases, lines) into your responses.

Chapter 1:

- “The Eagle” by Alfred, Lord Tennyson
- “The Two Ravens” (“The Twa Corbies”)
- “Ballad of Birmingham” by Dudley Randall.
- “Terence, this is stupid stuff” by A.E. Housman

Chapter 2:

- “There’s been a death in the opposite house” by Emily Dickinson
- “I wandered lonely as a cloud” by William Wordsworth

Chapter 3:

- “The Sheaves” by Edwin Arlington Robinson
- “Pathedy of Manners” by Ellen Kay

NOTES: Do not use AI to complete this work. Do not copy other students' work. This work must be typed using your own school Google account. You will submit it to your classroom Google Classroom on the first day of class, and it will be checked for editing history and sharing.

If you look up information about the poems—or analyses of them because you get stuck—that’s fine, but you **MUST CITE YOUR SOURCES**. Attach links to any sources used after your responses for each poem. Be honest.

WRITING:

We strongly encourage you to write ALL your college essays, including the supplemental essays, before the year begins.

You are REQUIRED to write the main essay for the Common Application and submit it on the first day of class. Select one of the prompts from the list below and compose a compelling, well-written essay. For the actual Common App, essays need to be between 250 and 650 words long. **For our class, your essay needs to be between 600 and 650 words long.** You will have a college essay writing conference during the first month of school.

Here is the [link to the Common App essay page](#) containing the list of this year's prompts. You will find links to model college essays on our Google Classroom page.

3. VIEWING:

After reading *Jane Eyre*, view the following film:

- *Jane Eyre* (directed by Cary Fukunaga, 2011; rated PG-13)
 - Interpret: Note what gets left out of this version of *Jane Eyre*? What one omission do you think has the most significant impact on the meaning of the story?
 - Interpret and Evaluate: Fukunaga explained that there are two competing story elements in *Jane Eyre*, the romantic and the Gothic. Which do you think he values more? How can you tell?

Here is the [link to the film](#), offered through SWANK.

Jane Eyre:

Notetaking Guide

Instructions:

As you read *Jane Eyre*, note that Jane's journey is predominantly linear. As she develops, she moves to five different places, each of which relates to her development. Brontë uses motifs to make her novel cohesive and to emphasize Jane's progress.

Trace Jane's journey, using the following notetaking guide. Integrate direct passages from the text into your notes. You may use bulleted points for most responses. Remember, these notes will not be collected or graded, but you will be able to use them for your first essay of the year and during graded discussions.

You may print out the pages below and use them to take notes while reading, or you may create a document of your own. Just be sure it contains all of the required information. Note that the categories for note taking are the same for the first four places of Jane's journey but different for the final one.

Gateshead - Lowood - Thornfield Hall - Marsh End - Ferndean

The five stages of Jane's journey through life can be identified by PLACE. For each of the places she lives, note the following things:

- **Significance of the name of the place:**
- **Description of the place**
- **Jane's Position**
- **Patriarch(s)**
- **Maternal Figure (s)**
- **Other Important Minor Characters (and their significance)**

Trace the following symbols and motifs throughout the book:

- The Moon
- The Color Red
- The Mirror
- Fire
- Ice
- Birds

***Jane Eyre* is an eponymously titled book. Jane is obviously an important character. Look for the following aspects of her character/character development in each section:**

- **Jane's Anger/Rebellion**
- **Jane's relationship to reading/education:**
- **Jane as an artist:**