

CP British Literature (English 12)

Summer Reading Assignment 2026-2027 School Year

To prepare for the rigor of this British Literature course, complete the following assignments. I will be evaluating not only your ability to critically analyze literature, but also your ability to follow directions with accuracy. Make sure that you have read through the entirety of this document before beginning this assignment. The purpose of this assignment is to (1) prepare you for college writing assignments, (2) expose you to British literature, and (3) begin the year by “perfecting” your college essay. Late assignments are absolutely unacceptable in this class. As senior students, you are expected to put forth your best effort.

Students who use AI for any portion of this work, including tools that fix/enhance writing like Grammarly, will be turned in to Mr. Harris for an Honor Code violation, be required to re-do the summer reading, and receive only UP TO HALF CREDIT.

Please acquire the following novel:

1. *Brave New World* by Aldous Huxley

Task 1: Begin by reading *Brave New World* by Aldous Huxley. As you read and annotate, respond to the following journal entries for the corresponding chapters using in-depth, thoughtful responses. **YOU MUST HAND WRITE YOUR RESPONSE TO EACH QUESTION.** Please include headings at the beginning of each journal entry response to indicate the chapter to which you are responding. **All entries are to be turned in on paper by Monday, August 31st.**

Chapter 1

1. How is the setting described in the beginning of the book? Be descriptive with your answer.
2. On page 4, Huxley comments on what is required of a “good and happy member of society” (Huxley 4). Read around this passage. What is Huxley saying about what this society values?

Chapter 2

1. This chapter opens up with a continued description of one of the Hatcheries. Here we enter into the Infant Nurseries. It is here, in the first few sentences, that Huxley uses the word “Pavlovian.” Look up this definition. What can you predict about the society's morals?
2. Two times in this chapter “Ford” is mentioned. After referencing Ford, the director makes a “T” sign with his hands. Who are they referring to? What is Ford famous for inventing?

Chapter 3

1. As the chapter continues, Huxley begins to bounce back and forth between three perspectives: Bernard Marx, The Controller, and Lenina. Why do you think the author chooses to change the point of view? What effect does this have on you as the reader?

Chapter 4: Part 2

1. What is a “foil character”? Who in this chapter appears to “foil” Bernard? How does this character “foil” Bernard?

Chapter 5: Part 2

1. What is Big Henry a reference to? What literary device is a reference to something cultural?

Chapter 6: Part 2

1. Define direct and indirect characterization. Helmholtz characterizes Bernard through his own tone, thoughts, and opinions. What does he say are Bernard's flaws?

Chapter 8

1. Which Shakespearean work is directly referenced in this chapter?
2. List 3 major differences between the settings of London and the reservation.

Chapter 10

1. There is a big reveal in this chapter. What is the reveal? Did you predict this would happen?

Chapter 11-13

1. Bernard, Lenina, and John have undergone great change as characters upon their return to "civilization." Bernard was an outsider, Lenina was the epitome of society, and John was an outsider in his respective reservation. In 7 sentences minimum, how have they changed? What traits about them are different?

Chapter 14

1. What happens to Linda in this chapter? Why does it happen? During this, a group of Delta children are brought in for what purpose? What are the reactions of this Bokanovsky Group (cloned humans)?

Chapter 16

1. There are two distinct settings in Brave New World. Compare and contrast each in detail (7 sentences minimum)

Chapter 17: Mustapha Mond and John have a philosophical debate regarding religion, science, death, old vs. new, and more.

1. John, in the end, argues that we should live with sin, heartache, sickness, aging, etc. Mond argues civilization is better for everyone without these issues. What side do you think supports the strongest argument? Use at least one piece of evidence to support your conclusion. Your answer should be no shorter than 8 sentences. Example of citation: (Huxley pg. #).

Chapter 18

1. In the end, Bernard and Helmholtz are sent away to an island. What becomes of John?

Task 2: College Essay Rough Draft - due on Monday, August 31st by the start of your class - Canvas Submission

Directions: Considering the directions/instruction provided by your Junior teacher at the end of last school year, please write the first draft of your College Application Essay. You may write on any of the prompts listed below. Your first draft MUST be a complete essay. It must be typed, double-spaced and in 12 point font. You will be working with your teacher to "perfect" this piece of writing at the beginning of the school year. It is very important that you have a working rough draft of the college essay by the due date! Although the word limit is 650 words, please tell your story thoroughly. Your English teacher will help you with word count as needed.

Continued for prompts.....

Common App Essay Prompts

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. Reflect on something that someone has done for you that has made you happy or thankful in a surprising way. How has this gratitude affected or motivated you?
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?