



TOWNSHIP OF OCEAN SCHOOLS

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Supervisor

Advanced Placement English Literature and Composition Summer Assignment 2026

Dear AP Literature students:

Welcome to Varsity English! Students who wish to participate in the twelfth grade Advanced Placement English program are required to complete a summer reading assignment. The purpose of the assignment is to prepare you for the challenging school year ahead.

First & foremost, students should join the Varsity English Classroom. The classroom code is:

5ylku2fd

Each student will read Kafka's *The Metamorphosis*. You can find a PDF copy of The Metamorphosis (on classroom) if you don't have the actual copy of the novella:

Assignment #1...be prepared for a challenging test on day 1. It will require that you have read the novella carefully.

Assignment #2...we will have a year-long assignment based on analysis of the premise of the book, *The Fourth Turning* by Neil Howe and William Strauss.

- Watch this video:
 - <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=xeVyfiP0cLk&t=30s>
 - You can find the link on Google Classroom as well.
 - If you are interested, by all means, read the book...or at least study the concept further via more videos, which are abundant on the subject. They are abundant, due to its prescience...
- This will become a year-long assignment, but we are going to build the foundation of it with a re-investigation of one of the core works from your sophomore year:
 - *The Great Gatsby*
 - *The Catcher in the Rye*
 - *Of Mice and Men*
 - *The Crucible*

- Using **ONE** of the above texts, you should investigate the following:
 - As it pertains to concepts related to *The Fourth Turning*, how does the character define that time period's generation?
 - Writing portion: No more than **2 paragraphs**
 - **Free Write** – ***NOT*** an essay.
 - Slideshow: No more than **5 slides**
 - Name the character's generation & how the seasonal turning relates to his or her – coming of age, current existential crisis, etc.
 - Basic info on the traits of that character's generation
 - How the character(s) (or novel as a whole) exemplifies the mood, spirit, traits, & overall zeitgeist of the era....

Additional Optional Reading (my suggestions if you fancy yourself a literary sleuth)...

- Malcolm Gladwell (*Outliers*, *Tipping Point*, or any other)
- Any literary classic that you probably should have read, but didn't...a few possibilities:
 - *Brave New World*
 - 1984
 - *Fahrenheit 451*
 - *The Trial* (if Metamorphosis knocked your socks off!)
 - Dostoevsky's *Crime and Punishment* (which I normally assign)

Upon returning to school in September, you will also be asked to demonstrate mastery of *The Metamorphosis*. You can expect to see objective questions based on the reading and the AP English IV teacher, Mr. Terlecsky, may also ask you to complete an alternate assessment such as a speech, research paper, or project. Also, there will be an assessment of the video lessons, so you should expect that upon your return to school. You should prepare accordingly. Failure to complete the assignments by the due dates will lead to grades of zero for the assignments. You are expected to give this assignment your full attention.

GOOD LUCK! SEE YOU IN SEPTEMBER.

Sincerely,

Mr. Schwartz
Supervisor of English

Mr. Terlecsky
AP Literature teacher

cc: A. DePasquale, Director of School Personnel Services