AP/ECE English Language and Composition
Summer Reading Assignment

Greetings AP/ECE English III Students:

As you have registered for a class which is both an Advanced Placement class and a UConn Early College Experience class, it is essential that you are prepared to commit the necessary time and effort. The course requires that you read independently and extensively from a wide selection of both nonfiction and fiction and write both timed and drafted essays on a regular basis. Please be sure you are prepared to spend significant time outside of class on the work. In addition, it's imporant that you are an engaged and curious learner prepared to contribute to frequent class discussions. If you have questions about any of these expectations, please contact one of us.

Summer reading assignment
To help prepare for next year, you are required to read two books. Please note that as an AP/ECE student, I assume that you are reading independently throughout the summer beyond the two books assigned here. **On the first day of class, please bring your completed summer reading assignments. You should have the books available for use in subsequent classes.**

Please carefully read the directions below.

Book 1: Follow the instructions on the blue summer reading assignment for all KHS students. You are welcome to read any book of your choice, fiction or nonfiction. While the note-taking form for the assignment focuses on elements of fiction, feel free to read a nonfiction book. Keep in mind that in order to continue to grow as a reader, you must challenge yourself.

Book 2: Select one of the following books listed. If you wish to sign a book out, please see Mr. Klein (room 2121) or Mrs. Gutierrez (room 2120).

1. *Great Expectations* by Charles Dickens
2. *Native Son* by Richard Wright
3. *The Adventures of Huckleberry Finn* by Mark Twain
4. *The Awakening* by Kate Chopin
5. *The Things They Carried* by Tim O'Brien
6. *Wuthering Heights* by Emily Bronte
7. *A Catcher in the Rye* by J.D. Salinger
8. *The Nickel Boys* by Colson Whitehead

You should complete a minimum of 15 dialectical journal entries to demonstrate the development of your thinking about the novel. All of your journal entries together should total about 1000-1500 words. The journal entries will be used to write an in-class essay during the first week of school. Directions for the dialectical journal and the summer reading rubric follow this letter.

If you have any questions about the class or the summer reading assignment, please feel free to email Mr. Klein at aklein@killinglyschools.org or Mrs. Gutierrez at jgutierrez@killinglyschools.org. Finally, be sure to share this letter with your parents/guardians.

Enjoy your summer!

Mrs. Gutierrez
English Department Coordinator

Mr. Klein
English Teacher

Dialectical Journal Directions

A dialectical journal shows your conversation with the text. It allows you, the reader, to respond in a personal and analytical way. Furthermore, it forces you to pause and reflect, questioning purpose and meaning.

The book you select is intended to be challenging and thought-provoking. Your journal responses should consider the complexity of the text and serve as evidence of your thinking. A warning: do not resort to the internet or AI. Have confidence in your own observations and questions. This is how you learn to think for yourself.

For each entry:

1. Hand write or type your entries.
2. Use the left-hand side of the page to record 1-2 sentences from the text that you find interesting, thought-provoking, or especially powerful. Focusing on literary elements such as character, setting, plot, theme, etc. is always a good place to start. Be sure to include a page number.
3. Use the right-hand side of the page to reflect on your selected passage. You can respond with observations, connections, questions, explanations, theories, analyses, predictions, etc. Of course, one of your primary goals is to begin to see <u>patterns and connections</u> among your entries. Struggle with the text; search for patterns in the text and changes in the main character. Ask questions. It is important to remember that a summary of the reading is not acceptable content for the journal responses.

Example 1 from *The Awakening*:

What the text says	**My response**
"'You are burnt beyond recognition,' he added, looking at his wife as one looks at a valuable piece of personal property…" (7).	Mr. Pontellier appears to value his wife not as an equal but as a possession that he owns. I wonder if she is happily married or if she is bothered by this subtle message. They also don't seem to talk about anything important other than the children. The time period is interesting because it would have been a time when women were seen as just wives and mothers. That one phrase "piece of property" suggests that the author had a view of marriage that was not typical of the time period when she wrote.

Example 2 from *The Adventures of Huckleberry Finn*

What the text says	**My response**
"She said… *she* was going to live so as to go to the good place. Well, I couldn't see no advantage in going where she was going, so I made up my mind I wouldn't try for it" (12).	Huck Finn as a narrator speaks improperly with double negatives and refers with irreverence to going to heaven. This is funny. If Miss Watson would be in heaven, then Huck Finn definitely didn't want to go there. Huck seems to have an awareness of religious morals but doesn't seem terribly impacted by them. I wonder if the main character will observe the differences between what society expects and what a person thinks is morally right.

Summer Reading Rubric

Journal responses…	Progressing	Proficient	Exemplary
are complete, with at least 15 complete entries and a total of 1000-1500 words			
contain meaningful quote selections that go beyond plot and demonstrate analysis required for AP/ECE-level work			
address patterns, demonstrating depth of understanding [by recording thoughts, reactions, predictions, questions, connections]			
are entirely original, representing the reader's thoughts and NOT the predictable interpretations or quote selections from AI AND avoid extensive summary			