Independent US 2026 Summer Reading / Writing for Juniors
(AP Language and British Literature)

Reading Requirement

1. Thoughtfully read and annotate the **Classic Book** that you selected from the list of over 77 classics below. **Buy your own paperback copy if possible, or download it on your digital reader, and make notes or mark important quotations as you read.**
2. Thoughtfully read and annotate
    a. Bram Stoker's *Dracula* 1897- A Norton Critical Edition 1997 copyright
3. Expect to have a diagnostic writing assignment as well as a test on your summer reading of *Dracula* during the first week of school. Come to class prepared.
4. If you listen to an audiobook, please read along in the book as well as annotating the text so you have that resource available.

Summer Writing Assignments

Your summer writing assignments are due on the first day of class in August. Basically, the **notes for *Dracula*** can be used later on your "in-class diagnostic essay" test. You should have two typed pages: one titled **Classic Book** and another title **Bram Stoker's *Dracula (***AP Language and British Lit)

Classic Book (AP Language and British Lit)

Assignment:
Type out three quotations from the novel and **cite the page number** for each: one about a main **character**, one describing the **setting**, and one that relates to the **theme**. You may quote dialogue from the novel or exposition from the narrator. After the quote, paraphrase or summarize its ideas in your own words.

Bram Stoker's *Dracula (*AP Language and British Lit)

Assignment:

Type out three quotations from the novel and cite the page number for each: one about **Count Dracula**, one about **Jonathan Harker**, and one describing **Mina Harker.** You will use these during the first week of class on our in-class diagnostic essay. After the quote, paraphrase or summarize its ideas in your own words.

MLA Format: In the upper left-hand corner, include your name, the instructor's name, the class, and the date. Center the title of the assignment and double space all in 12 pt. Times New Roman. Include your last name and the page number in the upper right-hand corner.

AP Rhetorical Terms **(Just AP Language)**

Words to Know for AP Language (Summer Work)

1. Create an index card for each term. On one side, write the word; on the other side write the definition as well as your own example for each.
2. These are due on the first day of class.
3. Expect a test on the terms (very possibly the first day of class), so be sure to study them all summer!

Ad Hominem - An argument based on the failings of an adversary rather than on the merits of the case; a logical fallacy that involves a personal attack.

Allegory - Extending a metaphor so that objects, persons, and actions in a text are equated with meanings that lie outside the text.

Alliteration - The repetition of an initial consonant sound.

Allusion - A brief, usually indirect reference to a person, place, or event--real or fictional.

Ambiguity - The presence of two or more possible meanings in any passage.

Analogy - Reasoning or arguing from parallel cases.

Anaphora - The repetition of the same word or phrase at the beginning of successive clauses or verses.

Antecedent - The noun or noun phrase referred to by a pronoun.

Antithesis - The juxtaposition of contrasting ideas in balanced phrases.

Aphorism - (1) A tersely phrased statement of a truth or opinion. (2) A brief statement of a principle.

Apostrophe - A rhetorical term for breaking off discourse to address some absent person or thing.

Appeal to Authority - A fallacy in which a speaker or writer seeks to persuade not by giving evidence but by appealing to the respect people have for a famous person or institution.

Argument - A course of reasoning aimed at demonstrating truth or falsehood.

Assonance - The identity or similarity in sound between internal vowels in neighboring words.

Asyndeton - The omission of conjunctions between words, phrases, or clauses (opposite of polysyndeton).

Chiasmus - A verbal pattern in which the second half of an expression is balanced against the first but with the parts reversed.

Claim - An arguable statement, which may be a claim of fact, value, or policy.

Climax - Mounting by degrees through words or sentences of increasing weight and in parallel construction with an emphasis on the high point or culmination of a series of events.

Colloquial - Characteristic of writing that seeks the effect of informal spoken language as distinct from formal or literary English.

Comparison - A rhetorical strategy in which a writer examines similarities and/or differences between two people, places, ideas, or objects.

Concession - An argumentative strategy by which a speaker or writer acknowledges the validity of an opponent's point.

Confirmation - The main part of a text in which logical arguments in support of a position are elaborated.

Conjunction - The part of speech (or word class) that serves to connect words, phrases, clauses, or sentences.

Connotation - The emotional implications and associations that a word may carry.

Coordination - The grammatical connection of two or more ideas to give them equal emphasis and importance. Contrast with subordination.

Deduction - A method of reasoning in which a conclusion follows necessarily from the stated premises.

Denotation - The direct or dictionary meaning of a word, in contrast to its figurative or associated meanings.

Diction - (1) The choice and use of words in speech or writing. (2) A way of speaking, usually assessed in terms of prevailing standards of pronunciation and elocution.

Didactic - Intended or inclined to teach or instruct, often excessively.

Epiphora - The repetition of a word or phrase at the end of several clauses. (Also known as epistrophe.)

Epitaph - (1) A short inscription in prose or verse on a tombstone or monument. (2) A statement or speech commemorating someone who has died: a funeral oration.

Ethos - A persuasive appeal based on the projected character of the speaker or narrator.

Euphemism - The substitution of an inoffensive term for one considered offensively explicit.

Exposition - A statement or type of composition intended to give information about (or an explanation of) an issue, subject, method, or idea.

Extended Metaphor - A comparison between two unlike things that continues throughout a series of sentences in a paragraph or lines in a poem.

Fallacy - An error in reasoning that renders an argument invalid.

False Dilemma - A fallacy of oversimplification that offers a limited number of options(usually two) when in fact more options are available.

Figurative Language - Language in which figures of speech (such as metaphors, similes, and hyperbole) freely occur.

Figures of Speech - The various uses of language that depart from customary construction, order, or significance.

Flashback - A shift in a narrative to an earlier event that interrupts the normal chronological development of a story.

Hasty Generalization - A fallacy in which a conclusion is not logically justified by sufficient or unbiased evidence.

Hyperbole - A figure of speech in which exaggeration is used for emphasis or effect; an extravagant statement.

Imagery - Vivid descriptive language that appeals to one or more of the senses.

Induction - A method of reasoning by which a rhetor collects a number of instances and forms a generalization that is meant to apply to all instances.

Invective - Denunciatory or abusive language; discourse that casts blame on somebody or something.

Irony - The use of words to convey the opposite of their literal meaning. A statement or situation where the meaning is directly contradicted by the appearance or presentation of the idea.

Jargon - The specialized language of a professional, occupational, or other group, often meaningless to outsiders.

Juxtaposition - Placing dissimilar items, descriptions, or ideas close together or side-by-side, especially for comparison or contrast.

Litotes - A figure of speech consisting of an understatement in which an affirmative is expressed by negating its opposite.

Logos - Employs logical reasoning, combining a clear idea (or multiple ideas) with well-thought-out and appropriate examples and details. These supports are logically presented and rationally reach the writer's conclusion.

Loose Sentence - A sentence structure in which a main clause is followed by subordinate phrases and clauses. Contrast with periodic sentence.

Metaphor - A figure of speech in which an implied comparison is made between two unlike things that actually have something important in common.

Metonymy - A figure of speech in which one word or phrase is substituted for another with which it is closely associated (such as "crown" for "royalty").

Mode of Discourse - The way in which information is presented in a text. The four traditional modes are narration, description, exposition, and argument.

Mood - (1) The quality of a verb that conveys the writer's attitude toward a subject. (2)The emotion evoked by a text.

Narrative - A rhetorical strategy that recounts a sequence of events, usually in chronological order.

Onomatopoeia - The formation or use of words that imitate the sounds associated with the objects or actions they refer to.

Oxymoron - A figure of speech in which incongruous or contradictory terms appear side-by-side.

Paradox - A statement that appears to contradict itself.

Parallelism - The similarity of structure in a pair or series of related words, phrases, or clauses.

Parody - A literary or artistic work that imitates the characteristic style of an author or a work for comic effect or ridicule.

Pathos - The means of persuasion that appeals to the audience's emotions.

Periodic Sentence - A long and frequently involved sentence, marked by suspended syntax, in which the sense is not completed until the final word--usually with an emphatic climax.

Personification - A figure of speech in which an inanimate object or abstraction is endowed with human qualities or abilities.

Point of View - The perspective from which a speaker or writer tells a story or presents information.

Prose - Ordinary writing (both fiction and nonfiction) as distinguished from verse.

Pun - a word employed in two senses, or a word used in a context that suggests a second term sounding like it. Puns are usually used for comic effect.

Refutation - The part of an argument wherein a speaker or writer anticipates and counters opposing points of view.

Repetition - An instance of using a word, phrase, or clause more than once in a short passage--dwelling on a point.

Rhetoric - The study and practice of effective communication.

Rhetorical Question - A question asked merely for effect with no answer expected.

Running Style - Sentence style that appears to follow the mind as it worries a problem through, mimicking the "rambling, associative syntax of conversation"--the opposite of periodic sentence style.

Sarcasm - A mocking, often ironic or satirical remark.

Satire - A text or performance that uses irony, derision, or wit to expose or attack human vice, foolishness, or stupidity.

Simile - A figure of speech in which two fundamentally unlike things are explicitly compared, usually in a phrase introduced by "like" or "as."

Style - Narrowly interpreted as those figures that ornament speech or writing; broadly, as representing a manifestation of the person speaking or writing.

Syllogism - A form of deductive reasoning consisting of a major premise, a minor premise, and a conclusion.

Subordination - Words, phrases, and clauses that make one element of a sentence dependent on (or subordinate to) another. Contrast with coordination.

Symbol - A person, place, action, or thing that (by association, resemblance, or convention) represents something other than itself.

Synecdoche - A figure of speech in which a part is used to represent the whole, the whole for a part, the specific for the general, the general for the specific, or the material for the thing made from it.

Syntax - (1) The study of the rules that govern the way words combine to form phrases, clauses, and sentences. (2) The arrangement of words in a sentence.

Thesis - The main idea of an essay or report, often written as a single declarative sentence.

Tone - A writer's attitude toward the subject and audience. Tone is primarily conveyed through diction, point of view, syntax, and level of formality.

Understatement - A figure of speech in which a writer deliberately makes a situation seem less important or serious than it is.

Voice - (1) The quality of a verb that indicates whether its subject acts (active voice) or is acted upon (passive voice). (2) The distinctive style or manner of expression of an author or narrator.

Zeugma - The use of a word to modify or govern two or more words although its use maybe grammatically or logically correct with only one.

Junior Research Paper Book Selections

Please sign up in Mrs. Alexander's room by Friday, May 13th. E-mail: Mrs. Alexander (jennifer.alexander@theindependentschool.com) if you have questions.
No more than 2 students should sign up for any book.
Look at a few of the books online before making your choices.

1. Adams, Douglas. *The Hitchhiker's Guide to the Galaxy.*
2. Alcott, Louisa May. *Little Women.*
3. Alvarez, Julia. *How the Garcia Girls Lost Their Accents.*
4. Angelou, Maya. *I Know Why the Caged Bird Sings.*
5. Atwood, Margaret. *The Handmaid's Tale* or *Oryx and Crake*
6. Austen, Jane. *Persuasion.*
7. Baldwin, James. *Go Tell It on the Mountain.*
8. Bronte, Charlotte. *Jane Eyre.*
9. Bronte, Emily. *Wuthering Heights.*
10. Brooks, Geraldine, *March.*
11. Buck, Pearl S. *The Good Earth.*
12. Butler, Octavia. *Kindred.*
13. Cather, Willa. *Death Comes to the Archbishop.*
14. Chopin, Kate. *The Awakening.*
15. Dangeremba, Tsitsi. *Nervous Conditions.*
16. Defoe, Daniel. *Robinson Crusoe.*
17. DeLillo, Don. *White Noise.*
18. Dick, Philip K. *Do Androids Dream of Electric Sheep?*
19. Dick, Philip K. *Martian Time-Slip*
20. Dickens, Charles. *Great Expectations.*
21. Dickens, Charles. *David Copperfield.*
22. Dinesen, Isak. *Out of Africa.*
23. Dostoevsky, Fyodor. *Crime and Punishment.*
24. Dumas, Alexandre. *The Count of Monte Cristo.*
25. Eliot, George. *Middlemarch.*
26. Emecheta, Buchi. *The Bride Price*.
27. Esquivel, Laura. *Like Water for Chocolate.*
28. Eugenides, Jeffrey. *Middlesex.*
29. Faulkner, William. *The Sound and the Fury*.
30. Flaubert, Gustave. *Madame Bovary.*
31. Ford, Richard. *Independence Day.*
32. Forster, E. M. *A Room with a View*.
33. Frazier, Charles. *Cold Mountain.*
34. Gaines, Ernest J. *A Lesson Before Dying*.
35. Hardy, Thomas. *Tess of the d'Urbervilles.*
36. Hardy, Thomas. *The Return of the Native.*

37. Heller, Joseph. *Catch-22.*
38. Hemingway, Ernest. *A Farewell to Arms.*
39. Hemingway, Ernest. *The Sun Also Rises.*
40. Hemingway, Ernest. *For Whom the Bell Tolls.*
41. Hurston, Zora Neale. *Their Eyes Were Watching God.*
42. Ishiguro, Kazuo. *The Remains of the Day.*
43. Jin, Ha. *Waiting.*
44. Joyce, James. *A Portrait of the Artist as a Young Man.*
45. Kerouac, Jack. *On the Road.*
46. Kesey, Ken. *One Flew Over the Cuckoo's Nest.*
47. Kincaid, Jamaica. *Annie John.*
48. Kingsolver, Barbara. *The Poisonwood Bible.*
49. Kingston, Maxine Hong. *The Woman Warrior.*
50. Le Guin, Ursula K. *The Left Hand of Darkness.*
51. Melville, Herman. *Moby-Dick.*
52. Momaday, N. Scott. *The House Made of Dawn.*
53. Morrison, Toni. *Beloved.*
54. Nabokov, Vladimir. *Lolita.*
55. Oates, Joyce Carol. *We Were the Mulvaneys.*
56. Plath, Sylvia. *The Bell Jar.*
57. Pynchon, Thomas. *Gravity's Rainbow*.
58. Rand, Ayn. *Atlas Shrugged.* .
59. Steinbeck, John. *East of Eden.*
60. Stowe, Harriet Beecher. *Uncle Tom's Cabin*
61. Swift, Jonathan. *Gulliver's Travels.*
62. Tan, Amy. *The Joy Luck Club.*
63. Thackery, William Makepeace. *Vanity Fair.*
64. Tolstoy, Leo. *War and Peace.*
65. Walker, Alice. *The Color Purple.*
66. Wells, H.G. *The Time Machine.*
67. Wharton, Edith. *The Age of Innocence.*
68. Wilde, Oscar. *The Picture of Dorian Gray.*
69. Woolf, Virginia. *Mrs. Dalloway.*
70. Woolf, Virginia. *To the Lighthouse.*
71. Wright, Richard. *Native Son.*

With specific permission only:

1. Cisneros, Sandra The House on Mango Street
2. Orwell, George. *Animal Farm.**For New Students Only