

ADVANCED PLACEMENT ENGLISH LITERATURE & COMPOSITION
Summer Assignment

Welcome to A.P. Lit—we are excited to begin an exciting year of literary adventures with you! Because we will hit the ground running on the very first day of the semester, we ask that you begin this summer by completing the assignment outlined below. The texts you will tackle ask you to consider the foundations of both what it means to read and study literature at the college level, and what it means to transition from childhood/adolescence into adulthood. We think these texts are fitting given you are about to begin the final year of your high school career and will be deciding what your academic and intellectual lives will look like after graduation.

The Works:

Nonfiction:

How to Read Literature Like a Professor, Thomas C. Foster

Novels (choose three):

Bless Me, Ultima, Rudolfo Anaya

The Kite Runner, Khaled Hosseini

The Namesake, Jhumpa Lahiri

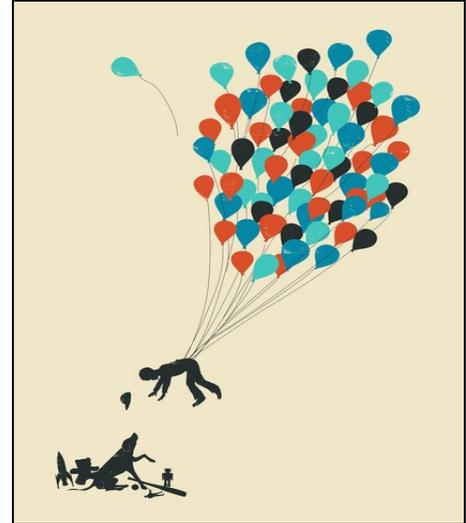
Song of Solomon, Toni Morrison

The Catcher in the Rye, J.D. Salinger

Persepolis, Marjane Satrapi

The Joy Luck Club, Amy Tan

The Color Purple, Alice Walker



The Assignment:

- Begin by reading *How to Read Literature Like a Professor*. You needn't complete a MWDS or a S-M-M for this text (more on that below), but we urge you to take detailed notes for your own benefit. We will be referencing this book throughout the year.
- For each of the above fictional works you must complete and hand in a Major Works Data Sheet and a Say-Mean-Matter chart. These can be typed and submitted on Turnitin.com along with your essay, or you may handwrite them and turn them in on the first day of school.
- Complete a five to seven page essay addressing the following prompt:

A bildungsroman, or coming-of-age novel, recounts the psychological or moral development of its protagonist from youth to maturity, when this character recognizes his or her place in the world. Using one of the above text, select a single pivotal moment in the psychological or moral development of the protagonist. Then write a well-organized essay that analyzes how that single moment shapes the meaning of the individual work as a whole.

Use the materials in your Resource Packet (found on our websites) to help you write this essay. Please also keep in mind the following formatting requirements: typed, double-spaced, Times New Roman font 11 or 12, with standard 1-inch margins. A standard MLA heading and proper in-text parenthetical citations are required.

- We will begin working at the very start of the semester on your personal statements for your college applications. Please use this summer to draft your answers to all eight of the University of California Personal Insight Questions. These prompts, along with some additional resources and tips on planning and drafting these personal responses can be found on our websites.

All components of the assignment (with the exception of handwritten SMMs and MWDSs, which will be handed in on the first day of school) are due **Monday, August 14th by 11:59pm** (nope, that's not a typo) **via Turnitin.com**. Information about creating a Turnitin.com account is on our websites. Late assignments will not be accepted under any circumstances, and not completing the assignment is grounds for dismissal from the course.

Questions or concerns? Feel free to email us over the break!
 Happy Reading! ☺

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