



# ST. PAUL HIGH SCHOOL

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## COLLEGE PREPARATORY

### Summer Reading Assignments – 2017

# Freshman

As part of our curriculum, the SPHS English Department requires incoming freshmen to read one book over the summer as part of their preparation to begin their literary studies in the fall. An assessment will be administered on the text/s when the students return from summer vacation.

#### **English 1 – College Prep**

Required: ***Monster*** by Walter Dean Myers

Alternative to *Monster*: ***Animal Farm*** by George Orwell

#### **English 1 Honors** (2 novels)

Required: ***Monster*** by Walter Dean Myers

Alternative to *Monster*: ***Animal Farm*** by George Orwell

Required: ***Of Mice and Men*** by John Steinbeck



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# Sophomore

### English 2 – College Prep

Incoming Sophomores (Class of 2020) are required to read the following:

Required: *Fahrenheit 451* by Ray Bradbury

Note: There will be an examination given by your sophomore teacher just after the start of the new school year.

### English 2 Honors

Required: *The Hobbit* by J. R. R. Tolkien

Note: Honors students are also required to write a two to three page paper analyzing one aspect of *The Hobbit*, which will be due the first week of school. Choose one of the following four prompts on which to write your paper.

1. Examine the ways in which the battle between good and evil / light and darkness is fought in *The Hobbit* and discuss what is communicated about human nature through this struggle.
2. *The Hobbit* is largely about a quest for treasure, an actual treasure guarded by Smaug and won back with the help of Bilbo. Yet Bilbo has also gained some “spiritual” treasures throughout the course of his journey. Discuss the other “treasures” Bilbo has gained and how he has gained them.
3. Having experienced the adventure to the full, Bilbo is not only “glad” for all the pain and sorrow but feels himself unworthy to have been blessed with such suffering. What does Bilbo’s gratitude for suffering say about the overarching moral of *The Hobbit*? How does such gratitude harmonize with Christianity?
4. What attitudes about war are communicated in *The Hobbit*? Where do Thorin, Bilbo, and the Elven King stand on the subject of war? What does Tolkien suggest about war in his description of the Battle of the Five Armies?

Honors students are also required to read one additional book from the following list:

- *Oliver Twist* by Charles Dickens
- *The Last Unicorn* by Peter S. Beagle
- *Rebecca* by Daphne du Maurier
- *Out of the Silent Planet* by C. S. Lewis

Note: There will be an essay examination on the book you choose from this list.



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# Junior

### English 3 – College Prep

Incoming Juniors (Class of 2019) are required to read the following:

Required: *If I Ever Get Out of Here* by Eric Gansworth

Note: There will be an examination given by your junior teacher just after the start of the new school year.

### English 3 Honors

Required: *The Astonishing Life of Octavian Nothing* by M. T. Anderson

English 3 Honors students are also required to read one additional book from the following list:

- *Someplace to be Flying* by Charles De Lint
- *The Grapes of Wrath* by John Steinbeck
- *Little Brother* by Cory Doctorow

*English 3 Honors students are also required to complete a project. Read the reverse side of this sheet carefully!*

## English 3 Honors Incoming Project

Welcome to English 3 Honors!

All E3H students are to complete the E3H incoming project before entrance into junior year. Begin this project after completing the readings on the summer reading list. Students will have two tasks in this project.

Firstly, ***write an imagined interview*** based on the author's writing style and personality with the author of either book.

Secondly, ***create a physical book cover*** for the other book.

For the interview portion, on a separate sheet of paper, write out the author's writing style and personality according to you and your thoughts when reading his/her book. This section should be anywhere from one to three paragraphs. Attach this paper to the interview when you are done. Following your written thoughts about the author's style and personality, write an interview in which you ask the author at least five questions. When writing, come up with open-ended questions, that is, questions that do not have an immediately right or wrong answer, but can be answered in multiple ways (Example: How did you feel when the protagonist lost her mother at the end of the first chapter?). As you cannot ask the author yourself, you are to answer the questions you pose in the style and the personality of the author as you have listed. This section should be anywhere from 1 ½ to 2 pages in length. Double-check for proper grammar and attach these two sheets of paper together before handing them in. I will grade you based on following instructions, proper writing, analysis of your author, and creativity of the questions and answers.

For the book cover, draw, craft, design a physical book cover for your book that reflects either your feelings on the book or what you think the cover should have actually looked like in print. You may use the standard printer paper size (8.5"x11") or larger. You are welcome to use any drawing and crafting medium (colored pencils, markers, pipe cleaners, construction paper, etc.), but you cannot print out images and use them; you must create the cover by hand. Along with the cover, but not attached, you should provide half a page of justification and explanation for your cover (Why you made the cover this way or included certain components). I will grade you based on your justifications for your cover, artistic effort, and following instructions.

Let's review. When you walk into the classroom on day one of class, you will have the following:

1-3 paragraphs of your author's style and personality (attached to the interview)

A 1 ½ -2 page interview that poses and answers at least 5 questions (attached to the author's style)

A hand-made book cover

About ½ page of justification for your creative cover

This project is summer work and is due **on the first day of class**. If you have any questions, email me at [nzekeo@stpaulhs.org](mailto:nzeko@stpaulhs.org). Best of luck.

I'll see you in my classroom on day one,

Mr. Zeko



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COLLEGE PREPARATORY

Summer Reading Assignments – 2017

# AP English Language and Composition

Instructor: Mrs. Joanna Annesley  
Email: [jannesley@stpaulhs.org](mailto:jannesley@stpaulhs.org)

**Texts:**

*In Cold Blood* by Truman Capote

*Thank You for Arguing* by Jay Heinrichs (ISBN: 9780385347754)

**Note:** There will be a 3-4 page reflection paper on *In Cold Blood* due FRIDAY, AUGUST 25th. There will be a major exam on *Thank You For Arguing* shortly thereafter.

Assignment:

1. Students are to complete the readings prior to the first day of school.
2. Close Reading Assignment: Each student is to read Capote's *In Cold Blood* and complete a 3-4 page reflection paper that concerns:

**Tone** is a term used in the study of rhetoric to describe the writer's/speaker's feelings about the subject he or she is exploring in writing or speech. Tone is often something readers need to "pick up on" as the author or speaker is unlikely to tell you what his or her own tone is.

How does Capote's *tone* change (if at all) according to the characters and scenes he is describing? How does Capote cause a certain *mood* (emotion) to develop according to his tone? Finally, in your opinion, does Capote's writing style (according to your analysis of his use of tone and mood) make the true-crime story he is describing believable and realistic, or does his writing get in the way of facts? ...You may focus on Capote's use of language and plot details to justify your answers.

\* The paper should be in proper MLA format and it must include at least three brief quotes from the text as well as one paraphrase. All quotes and paraphrases must be cited properly in the paper. Quoted material must be supported with the student's insight and interpretation.

\* This is a close-reading assignment, so no sources are required other than the text itself.

\* A Works Cited page is required. You may use [easybib.com](http://easybib.com) to construct a Works Cited page.

3. There will be an exam on *Thank You for Arguing* in September.



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# Senior

### Senior English – College Prep

Incoming seniors (class of 2018) are required to read the following:

Required: ***A Separate Peace*** by John Knowles

Note: There will be an essay examination given by your senior teacher just after the start of the new school year.



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# AP English Literature and Composition

Here we go with your last year. As you move in the direction of your Life After St. Paul, I know that you are serious about what you need to accomplish by next May. And I couldn't be more serious about AP English Literature.

I teach the AP English Literature course in the belief that there are some students who are well prepared for greater depth to their studies—not just AP credit on their transcripts. I love literature deeply. I want you to feel the same awe about what the greatest writers can do with words and ideas. I am serious about teaching, and I want my students to be serious about learning. I believe in academic rigor. Please think carefully about everything I have said in this paragraph.

It is my hope that you have already gone through that important transformation that changes students from ordinary readers who understand English into informed, experienced, **critical** readers, people whose understanding of a text derives from their sensitivity to its art and their ability to deal intelligently with all its elements.

It is important to me (and I hope to you) that you succeed in AP English Literature. Yes, you should be ready for college-level work in the study of literature, but that is not all. You will not succeed if you have poor attendance. I need my AP students in class **every day**. If it is your habit to miss a lot of school or you casually take days off whenever you like, you will not succeed in my class. I cannot stress this enough. Additionally, you're going to have to make time in your life to READ. The key to success on the AP exam is how much you have read and understood a wide range of all types of literature. And finally, I expect your writing skills to already be well above average. You should already have a firm grasp on the skills I teach in Essay-Term Paper.

I want to know that each of you has read this letter carefully and thoughtfully. So I am **requiring** you to write me a reply. You may hand me a written letter on or before the last day of school, or you may e-mail me at [jfrausto@stpaulhs.org](mailto:jfrausto@stpaulhs.org) no later than July 1, 2017. Also, if you have any questions about the class or your summer reading assignment, please see me before school ends or e-mail during the summer. I will be happy to answer any questions you have.

And finally, here is your summer reading requirement:

*How to Read Literature Like a Professor* (Revised Edition)  
*Don Quixote de la Mancha*

Thomas C. Foster  
Miguel de Cervantes

Be prepared to discuss both works when school begins. Also, please make sure you read the revised edition of Foster's book, not the earlier one. And yes, you must read **both parts** of *Don Quixote*.

God Bless You and Happy Reading!