

*Chelmsford High School*  
*AP Summer Reading Grade 12*  
*2018*

Grade 12 ADVANCED PLACEMENT LITERATURE AND COMPOSITION READING REQUIREMENTS

AP LITERATURE AND COMPOSITION students must read all of the following books:

***Antigone by Sophocles*** (translated by Fitts and Fitzgerald ISBN-10: 015602764X\*): Review the classical definition of tragedy; who is the tragic hero of this play and how does the definition as a whole relate to this play? Is the tragic hero debatable? What is the role of the chorus? How are Antigone and Ismene different? Describe their relationship and how it evolves. What is the role of Tiresias in the play? Is this play about law or fate or both? What is Antigone's dilemma?

***Chronicle of a Death Foretold*** Gabriel Garcia Marquez ISBN-10: 140003471X\*

Research magical realism a bit: Garcia Marquez was one of its pioneers and it figures prominently in this brief novel. What are the effects of the disclosed outcome? What does society's complicity in the murder say about human nature? How does Nasar exhibit hubris? What is machismo? What role does religion play? How does fate play a role in the novel? Consider blame in the novel. Keep track of possible symbols and repeated images in the novel. What role does violence play? What role does irony play in the text? Consider caste. Consider physicality and spirituality in the book.

***Their Eyes Were Watching God*** Zora Neale Hurston ISBN-10: 0061120065\*

In this quest for true love, what different types of love emerge? What symbols, images and metaphors keep surfacing in the text? Do some quick research on The Harlem Renaissance, of which Hurston was a key part. How is this a novel about identity, autonomy and power? What does each marriage represent? Consider the roles of speech, silence, and liberation through expression. How is the novel a quest, a self-discovery?

\*Please be sure to purchase the EXACT version by matching the ISBN for each book. Thank you.

**Assignment:**

**A written essay assignment for each book will be given and graded in the fall.**

BE SURE TO BUY THE DESIGNATED EDITIONS AS INDICATED ABOVE BY ISBN NUMBERS!

If you have any questions, please feel free to email me. I check my email all summer!

### **Suggested Guidelines for Annotating Texts**

**There is not one “right” way to annotate as you read, but there are some general principles for good annotating that you should keep in mind. You should write marginal notes in the text that consist of questions and comments, essentially your dialogue with the text itself.**

**Review this guide frequently as you are completing your assigned reading. Close reading takes more time than quick, superficial reading, but doing so will save you time and anxiety later as you prepare to discuss and write about the literature.**

1. **Always read with a pen or pencil in hand.** Doing so helps you to focus and to stay alert.
2. Always **take your time** as you begin a new text. Ask yourself many questions as you begin: Who is telling the story? What is the setting? What details does the author provide about characters when they are first introduced?
3. **Abbreviate** as you take notes. Use **initials** for characters. Try to develop your own set of **symbols** for important ideas. For example, you might place a **star** next to key passages.
4. Keep a **list of characters** and their **key traits**. A good place for this is the inside cover of the book. You can add brief notes to your lists as you read.  
  
\***Front and back covers** as well as the first and last “blank” pages are also good places to jot notes about important settings, key ideas, and key page numbers.
5. Look for **patterns** as you read. What ideas do you see repeated? What **connections** can you draw between different characters and different events?
6. Try to make a **quick note at the end of each chapter**, indicating the most important points it contained.
7. Think of a **memorable title for each chapter** and write it down at the beginning. (You can still make your own title even if the author has provided one.)
8. On the first or last page of a chapter, **bullet-point the key events** as a summary of that section.
9. **Use question marks.** Be alert to what puzzles you. Good readers do not zip along without stopping to monitor their comprehension. They stop to think and to note what they don’t understand. You should also write down questions you would like to discuss.
10. Of course, you should always pay attention to **vocabulary**. A strong vocabulary comes from *reading*, not from memorizing lists. Your text includes many words that will be new to you. Circle or star these words. Try to determine meaning from the context. If you are really puzzled by a word, look it up.

**We suggest that you use sticky notes in addition to writing marginal notes in order to give you enough space for your thoughts.**