

# Ringgold High School

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## AP English and/or English Honors 12: Prerequisite Reading

Dear AP English Literature Student,

Thank you for registering for *AP English and/or English Honors 12*. Listed below, you will find the titles you are required to read. The reading will need to be completed before class begins. You will be **tested** over these selections the first week of class in the semester for which you are scheduled. There will be no class discussion of the texts prior to the exams.

1. Prerequisite Reading- During your 12 week summer break please read and watch **TWO** the following texts:

\*Shakespeare's *Twelfth Night*                      \*Shakespeare's *Julius Caesar*                      \*Shakespeare's *Hamlet*  
\*Shakespeare's *King Lear*                                      \*Shakespeare's *Macbeth*

\*NOTE: I encourage you to watch a film version of your two selections but *only* if you watch **with** English subtitles.

2. As you read the selections, it would be beneficial for you to make notes about the **plot, universal themes, archetypal characters, symbols, motifs, significant passages, etc.** in order to help you review for the upcoming tests. It would be beneficial for you to highlight and make notes in the margins or use post-it notes (talk to the text/make connections). Works of literary merit require several close readings of the texts in order to determine what the text reveals about the human experience and human behavior.

3. In addition to the exams over the texts, you will also be analyzing the literature in a series of essays during the first week of the semester along with completing *Major Works Data Sheet* assignments. It is imperative that you commit to reading, to studying, and to reviewing the literature in a timely manner.

4. A copy of the bible, a dictionary, and Edith Hamilton's *Mythology* are useful reference tools for the serious English student. Copies of all the above books are usually available at McKay's at an affordable price.

**Please familiarize yourself with the following RHS Honors English course expectation:**

*From the syllabus... "Late work will **NOT** be accepted. All assignments must be **ON TIME, EVERY TIME!**  
Turning in late work and producing poor quality work are unbecoming behaviors for an honors student to display."*

The *successful* college-bound student learns the art of PACING. Use your time wisely and do not procrastinate.

Regards,

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