

AP Literature and Composition  
Summer Reading Assignment

Chose one book from the following lists to read over the course of this summer. Choose one additional book from the attached list.

*A Prayer for Owen Meany*-John Irving  
*East of Eden*-John Steinbeck  
*The Poisonwood Bible*-Barbara Kingsolver  
*A Midsummer Night's Dream*-"Bill" Shakespeare  
*Slaughterhouse 5*-Kurt Vonnegut  
*Mink River*-Brian Doyle

For each of the books you choose, you must journal. The format for this is open ended. This will provide information for the instructor regarding how you interact with text, think, organize, and work.

Double-Entry Journal Format—

- The paper should be divided in half vertically.
- One side is a quote from the text. It should be at least three lines and no more than one short paragraph, fully written out and cited with the page number. The quotes should be chosen because you believe that they represent a key point about a theme or a character in the novel, especially the above-mentioned theme of the conflict between the individual and society.
- The other side should contain your observations. Articulate the following—
  - Any observations regarding character/character development, conflict, theme, rhetorical devices/word choice, setting, allusions, and form/structure.
  - Any unfamiliar language.
  - Any analysis regarding tone, and what it indicates about the author's attitude toward the subject or the character
  - Any interpretation or analysis of significant imagery, symbolism, or metaphors being used by the author

**To Note—**

- The entries should span the entire book (there needs to be clear evidence that you've read the whole novel).
- Do not simply restate the meaning of the quote in your own words—this is your opportunity to interact with the language and the ideas of the author at a critical level.

How will you be evaluated?

The double-entry journals will be evaluated according to the following criteria:

- Quantity—Variety: There is a wide variety of the kinds of notes and questions, ranging from specific literary device analysis to broad themes. I will look, too, for your personal reaction and thoughts.
- Quantity—Quality: The quantity and quality of questions and notes demonstrate a strenuous effort to contemplate, and to respond to the complete text. It should be informative and helpful to you, not burdensome and not the bane of your summer.
- Language: Questions and notes demonstrate an in depth understanding of, and curiosity about the language used in the text. You should note words and definitions for unfamiliar words. Use a dictionary.
- Searching for Patterns and Themes: Questions and notes demonstrate an excellent awareness of patterns and themes developing in the text.
- **Plagiarism, such as copying another student's journal or Sparks Notes, etc. will result in a failing grade.**

—AP Lit Most Frequently Cited 1970-2011—

24 Invisible Man by Ralph Ellison  
19 Wuthering Heights by Emily Bronte  
16 Crime and Punishment by Fyodor Dostoevski  
16 Great Expectations by Charles Dickens  
15 Jane Eyre by Charlotte Bronte  
15 Moby Dick by Herman Melville  
14 The Adventures of Huckleberry Finn by Mark Twain  
12 Catch-22 by Joseph Heller  
12 The Great Gatsby by F. Scott Fitzgerald  
12 Portrait of the Artist as a Young Man by James Joyce  
12 The Scarlet Letter by Nathaniel Hawthorne  
11 The Awakening by Kate Chopin  
11 Billy Budd by Herman Melville  
11 Light in August by William Faulkner  
11 Their Eyes Were Watching God by Zora Neale Hurston  
10 As I Lay Dying by William Faulkner  
10 Ceremony by Leslie Marmon Silko  
9 Beloved by Toni Morrison  
9 Native Son by Richard Wright  
9 Othello by William Shakespeare  
9 Song of Solomon by Toni Morrison  
9 A Streetcar Named Desire by Tennessee Williams  
8 Anna Karenina by Leo Tolstoy  
8 Bless Me, Ultima by Rudolfo Anaya  
8 Candide by Voltaire  
8 The Color Purple by Alice Walker  
8 Jude the Obscure by Thomas Hardy  
8 The Jungle by Upton Sinclair  
8 A Passage to India by E. M. Forster  
8 Rosencrantz and Guildenstern Are Dead by Tom Stoppard  
7 All the King's Men by Robert Penn Warren  
7 All the Pretty Horses by Cormac McCarthy  
7 The Crucible by Arthur Miller  
7 Cry, The Beloved Country by Alan Paton  
7 Death of a Salesman by Arthur Miller  
7 Lord Jim by Joseph Conrad  
7 Madame Bovary by Gustave Flaubert  
7 The Mayor of Casterbridge by Thomas Hardy  
7 Portrait of a Lady by Henry James  
7 A Raisin in the Sun by Lorraine Hansberry  
7 Sula by Toni Morrison  
7 The Tempest by William Shakespeare  
7 Waiting for Godot by Samuel Beckett  
6 An Enemy of the People by Henrik Ibsen  
6 Equus by Peter Shaffer  
6 Ethan Frome by Edith Wharton  
6 Gulliver's Travels by Jonathan Swift  
6 Hedda Gabler by Henrik Ibsen  
6 Major Barbara by George Bernard Shaw  
6 Medea by Euripides  
6 The Merchant of Venice by William Shakespeare  
6 Moll Flanders by Daniel Defoe  
6 Mrs. Dalloway by Virginia Woolf  
6 Murder in the Cathedral by T. S. Eliot