

English III Advanced Placement Summer Reading Assignments

The primary purpose of the AP English courses is to give students a first-year college reading and writing course which prepares them to encounter sophisticated texts with confidence, independence, and creativity. The AP exams use close reading, careful analysis of text, and precise use of the text to develop a written response.

Prior to the start of the fall semester, students enrolled in English III AP will be required to read a novel and a set of essays. They will also complete the following assignments. The novel may be purchased at local bookstores or checked out from the public library. We strongly recommend the students purchase the book so they may highlight and take notes in it. The essays are available online.

Testing on the summer reading will be completed within the first week of school in the fall and will constitute a large portion of the first grading period. This summer reading is mandatory; failure to meet these requirements will result in a recommendation that the student be reassigned. **Projects are due on the second day of class in August.**

If you have any questions, please feel free to call Susan Day, Calallen High School, 242-5626, ext. 7425 or email her at sday@calallen.org.

The Adventures of Huckleberry Finn - Mark Twain

Directions: Answer the following comprehensive questions on the novel. Do not write essay responses; instead follow the underlined subtitles below to make charts and use bullets in note form. You still need to make sure that your answers are clear, detailed, and supported with several **direct quotes or very specific details, noting page numbers**, so we can easily reference your answers in class discussion. Some questions require outside research; all of the questions assume a certain proficiency in literary analysis. You are expected to word process your responses. Follow MLA format for heading and page numbers. This summer reading project is due the second day of school in August.

Assigned Questions:

1. How are Twain's own life experiences reflected in the novel?
 - A. Facts About Twain's Life
 - B. Parallels in Huck Finn
2. Why is the point of view used in Huck Finn so effective?
 - A. What is the point of view
 - B. Effectiveness of Point of View
 - C. Example in Huck Finn

Satire – Jonathan Swift, Benjamin Franklin, and Henry David Thoreau

Directions: Satire is often a careful blend of humor, irony, sarcasm, and various rhetorical devices. The purpose of satire is to expose the folly of some aspect of human life, perhaps with the aim of bringing about some reform or improvement. Satire can run the gamut from lightly humorous to scathingly bitter. The satirical writer runs the risk of being misinterpreted by a reader who fails to grasp that the written work is satire. When this misinterpretation occurs, the reader comes away believing that the author was supporting the very things that he, in fact, was attacking. Read the following essays (all available on the internet), and in a well-developed paragraph (one-half to one page) for each, discuss the intended meaning of the author and the literary devices the author used to convey the satire. If unfamiliar with the basic strategies of the satirist, use a source such as Wikipedia to do some research about satire. Do **not** use reference sources to analyze the pieces of satire below. Please type your response in MLA essay format with correct heading and page numbers.

- A. “A Modest Proposal” by Jonathan Swift
<http://art-bin.com/art/omodest.html>

- B. “Pax Quaeritur Bello” by Benjamin Franklin
<http://www.historycarper.com/1766/01/26/pax-quaeritur-bello/>

- C. “Brute Neighbors” (**sections 12 –14 only, sometimes called “The Battle of the Ants”**), from Chapter 12 of *Walden* by Henry David Thoreau
<http://thoreau.eserver.org/walden12.html>