

AP English 12

Required Summer Reading/Assignments

Rationale for Summer Reading

York County School Division summer English reading assignments allow students to broaden their scope and knowledge of novels and other long works that will not be covered during the school year. The summer work is designed to be completed by the student with minimal assistance, although teachers are available to provide assistance as indicated below. Assignments must be students' original and individual work. For students who continue to take advanced courses, summer assignments develop progressively each year. By the senior year, students are expected to be fully sophisticated in their knowledge and use of the major elements and characteristics of literature.

Required Summer Reading

York County students enrolled in AP English 12 for the next school year are required to read (prior to the beginning of school in September) **three** full-length works that have been identified by their school.

Book 1 : _____ **by** _____

Book 2 : _____ **by** _____

Book 3: _____ **by** _____

Required Summer Assignments

Students will read and complete notes/annotations on all three novels identified above. These notes/annotations will be collected at the first class meeting. Specific details about how to complete the notes/annotations will be provided by the teacher. The summer reading notes/annotations must be turned in on the first day of class. **LATE WORK WILL NOT BE ACCEPTED.**

Students will write, revise, and produce two essays in class covering the novels. The notes/annotations completed during the summer will be used to write the essays. The possible essay topics are given below. The first essay will be a 40-minute timed writing the first week of school. The second essay will be a follow-up comparison and contrast essay assigned after instruction during the first quarter.

During the first week of school, students will complete a test covering **all** three works. Students will **not** be permitted to use a copy of the work or any notes in order to complete this test.

Evaluation

The summer reading grades will include the following:

- Quiz grade for the notes/annotations
- Test grade for one test covering all three works
- Quiz grade for the timed writing
- Test grade within the first interim for the comparison and contrast essay

Possible Essay Topics

1. Determine the credibility of two narrators. Find places in the works that establish the narrators' authenticity. Defend your selections.
2. Using two literary works, compare and contrast the authors' purposes. What do the writers want readers to understand and to realize?
3. Identify a current topic such as genocide, epidemics, war, scientific advancement, colonialism, natural disasters, social injustices, or politics, and compare and contrast how this topic is addressed in two of the novels. Pay particular attention to the development of conflict in the novels.
4. Identify isolation and loneliness in two works. Compare and contrast the treatment of the two elements in the novels. (Consider: Do social circumstances or poor decision-making cause the isolation and loneliness? Are isolation and loneliness always negative elements? How so?)
5. Compare and contrast two characters from different works and discuss their responses to an economic, sociological or psychological issue.
6. Use teacher-selected quotation to discuss a thematic issue, characterization, or point of view in two works.
7. Compare and contrast a literary element in one novel to a literary element in another novel: symbolism, irony, imagery, tone, conflict, or setting.
8. Compare and contrast the effectiveness of two opening scenes.
9. Review two works which incorporate foreshadowing and compare and contrast how it is used as a literary device during the novel. Select passages, phrases or words that foreshadow the ending scenes.
10. Compare and contrast the development of setting and historical background in two novels. Discuss how they contribute to theme and tone.
11. No scene of violence exists for its own sake in a novel. Discuss the significance of violence in a specific scene from two different novels and relate their significance to the overall meaning of the works.
12. Select a woman from two different novels who is unable to change her circumstances, even as she or her family members suffer. Compare and contrast their situations, subsequent decision-making and ability to take control of their lives.

Check with your English teacher as soon as possible for assistance or resources.

Rubric for AP English 12 Summer Reading

Name: _____ Date: _____

Essay Topic: _____ Score: _____

Top Scores 9-8	These are well-written papers which respond fully to the question asked. The best papers show a full understanding of the issues and support their points with appropriate textual evidence and examples. Writers of these essays demonstrate stylistic maturity by an effective command of sentence structure, diction, and organization. The writing need not be without flaws, but it should reveal the writer's ability to choose from and control a wide range of elements of effective writing.
Upper Scores 7-6	These essays also respond correctly to the questions asked but do so less fully or less effectively than the essays in the top range. Their discussion may be less thorough and less specific. These essays are well-written in an appropriate style but reveal less maturity than the top papers. They do make use of textual evidence to support their points. Some lapses in diction or syntax may appear, but the writing demonstrates sufficient control over the elements of composition to present the writer's ideas clearly.
Middle Score 5	These essays respond to the question, but the comments may be simplistic or imprecise; they may be overly generalized, vague, or inadequately supported. These essays are adequately written, but may demonstrate inconsistent control over the elements of composition. Organization is attempted, but it may not be fully realized or particularly effective.
Lower Scores 4-3	These essays attempt to deal with the question, but do so either inaccurately or without support or specific evidence. They may show some misunderstanding or omit pertinent analysis. The writing can convey the writer's ideas, but it reveals weak control over diction, syntax, organization. These essays may contain excessive and distracting spelling and grammatical errors. Statements are seldom supported with specific or persuasive evidence, or inappropriately lengthy quotations may replace discussion and analysis.
Lowest Scores 2-1	These essays fail to respond adequately to the question. They may reveal misunderstanding or may distort the interpretation. They compound the problems of the lower score papers. Generally these essays are unacceptably brief or poorly written. Although some attempts to answer the question may be indicated, the writer's view has little clarity and only slight, if any, evidence in its support.

1st Quarter
9 = 100
8 = 100
7 = 95
6 = 90
5 = 85
4 = 75
3 = 65
2 = 55
1 = 40

NOTES: