

AP ENGLISH 1409

SUMMER READING ASSIGNMENT 2009

Calvert County Public Schools

Requirement One: Read Two Novels — One required and one self-selected

- All PHS AP Literature incoming seniors are required to read *Things Fall Apart* by Chinua Achebe.
- Select an additional novel from the list below.
- These two novels are your required summer reading.
- Each book should be purchased. Check with your Media Specialist for Book Fair information.
- After you read each novel, you must complete a Summer Reading Assignment. Directions for this assignment appear in the REQUIREMENT TWO section of this flyer.

The Awakening by Kate Chopin
Beloved by Toni Morrison
Brave New World by Aldous Huxley
The Color Purple by Alice Walker
Cry the Beloved Country by Alan Paton
Fifth Business by Robertson Davies
Jane Eyre by Charlotte Bronte
The Joy Luck Club by Amy Tan
Native Son by Richard Wright
1984 by George Orwell
Slaughterhouse Five by Kurt Vonnegut



May 2009

Summer Reading
Assignment 2009
AP English 1409

Patuxent High
School



- ◆ Make your book selection.
- ◆ Obtain your books.
- ◆ Read your books carefully and thoughtfully.
- ◆ Begin your Summer Reading Assignment.
- ◆ Prepare a timeline to study vocabulary.
- ◆ Study vocabulary and complete work.
- ◆ Complete your Summer Reading Assignment.

Requirements

- Read your two required novels over the summer and complete the Summer Reading Assignment for each novel.
- The Summer Reading Assignments are due the first day of class.
- Complete vocabulary assignments— also due the first day of class.
- Prepare for testing in both areas.

THE NOVELS

REQUIRED:

***Things Fall Apart* by Chinua Achebe** The tragic hero is a prosperous, self-made Nigerian tribesman, a champion wrestler, and a husband to three wives. When missionaries begin to unravel tribal traditions, though, he is destroyed by his fear and blind ambition.

CHOOSE ONE ADDITIONAL WORK FROM THE LIST BELOW:

***The Awakening* by Kate Chopin** First published in 1899, this novel so disturbed critics and the public that it was banished for decades. Now widely read and admired, *The Awakening* has been hailed as an early vision of woman's emancipation. This sensuous book tells of a woman's abandonment of her family, her seduction, and her awakening to desires and passions that threaten to consume her.

***Beloved* by Toni Morrison** Set in post-Civil War Ohio, this Pulitzer Prize-winning novel is a haunting chronicle of slavery and its aftermath. It traces the life of a young woman, Sethe, who has kept a terrible memory at bay only by shutting down part of her mind. *Beloved* is a dense, complex novel that yields up its secrets one by one.

***Brave New World* by Aldous Huxley** "Community, Identity, Stability" is the motto of Aldous Huxley's utopian World State. Here everyone consumes daily grams of soma to fight depression and babies are born in laboratories. Though there is no violence and everyone is provided for, Bernard Marx feels something is missing.

***The Color Purple* by Alice Walker** A Pulitzer-Prize-winning feminist novel—praised for the depth of its female characters—that is a realistic account of an abused and uneducated black woman's struggle for empowerment. (Contains strong language and mature themes)

***Cry, the Beloved Country* by Alan Paton** Compassionate and moving story of Zulu pastor Stephen Kumalo and his son Absalom, set in the troubled South Africa of the 1940s. It's a tale, full of hard truths but also full of hope and forgiveness.

***Fifth Business* by Robertson Davies** Ramsay is a man who has returned from World War I decorated with the Victoria Cross destined to be caught in a no man's land where memory, history, and myth collide. His apparently innocent involvement in such innocuous events as the throwing of a snowball or the teaching of card tricks to a small boy prove neither innocent nor innocuous.

***Jane Eyre* by Charlotte Bronte** A classic Gothic romance with windswept castles, mysteries, dark secrets, and passions—the story of Jane, a poor, innocent orphan who becomes a governess and then loses her heart to bitter, cynical Mr. Rochester.

***The Joy Luck Club* by Amy Tan** Chronicles the lives of four women raised in China and their four America-born daughters; Tan examines the sometimes painful, often tender, and always deep connection between mothers and daughters—moving and bittersweet.

***Native Son* by Richard Wright** The story of Bigger Thomas, a young black man caught in a downward spiral after he kills a young white woman in a brief moment of panic. Set in Chicago in the 1930s, the novel shows the poverty and feelings of hopelessness experienced by people in inner cities across the country and of what it means to be black in America.

***1984* by George Orwell** The great modern classic where Big Brother is always watching you and the Thought Police can practically read your mind—Winston is in grave danger because his longing for truth leads him to secretly rebel.

***Slaughterhouse Five* by Kurt Vonnegut** Billy Pilgrim is a man who becomes unstuck in time after he is abducted by aliens from the planet Tralfamadore. The reader follows Pilgrim simultaneously through all phases of his life, concentrating on his (and Vonnegut's) shattering experience as an American prisoner of war who witnesses the firebombing of Dresden.

Requirement Two: Complete the Summer Reading Assignment



This assignment will prepare you for the in-class essay you will complete sometime during the first weeks of school. Grades for the assignment are based on the rubric which appears on page 4.

Summer Reading Assignment—DUE THE FIRST DAY OF CLASS

DIRECTIONS: Read your two novels carefully, and then provide the information required below for each. Be sure your work is thoughtful and representative of your own thinking and insight. Your final project must be typed and double-spaced using the 12-point Times New Roman font. Be sure to label each section in the same order in which it appears on this handout.

- Novel Title
- Author's Name
- Year of First Publication
- Provide five details about the author in bulleted form that you consider most significant to the work.
- Provide three important facts about the historical time period during which the book was written that you consider most significant to the work and briefly explain their significance. (What was going on in the world when the book was written? What events might have influenced the author and why?)
- Identify the literary period/movement during which the novel was written. Provide one or two important facts about it.
- Summarize the plot. Use bullets or create a graphic organizer.
- Identify a brief significant passage from the first part of your selected novel.
 - Copy the passage.
 - Explain briefly why it's significant and how it relates to the work as a whole.
- Identify a brief significant passage from the middle part of your selected novel.
 - Copy the passage.
 - Explain briefly why it's significant and how it relates to the work as a whole.
- Identify a brief significant passage from the final part of your selected novel.
 - Copy the passage.
 - Explain briefly why it's significant and how it relates to the work as a whole.
- CHARACTERIZATION – Identify and describe at least three significant characters in the work. Significant characters may be major or minor characters. Include:
 - the character's name
 - major character attributes
 - motivation (What does the character want?)
 - your view of the author's purpose for the character in the story
 - other important information specific to the character
- Describe the dominant setting(s) and explain the significance to the story.
- Identify and briefly explain the major theme(s) of the work.

Summer Reading Assignment Scoring Rubric

_____190 – 200 Amazing! I can tell that you have thoughtfully and completely analyzed and evaluated your chosen work and are thoroughly prepared to use this novel as the basis for an essay question during the first weeks of school. All elements of the profile are complete and demonstrate superior effort and insight.

_____179 – 189 Outstanding! I can tell that you have thoughtfully and completely analyzed and evaluated your chosen work and are extremely well prepared to use this novel as the basis for an essay question during the first weeks of school. All elements of the profile are complete and demonstrate excellent effort and insight.

_____159 – 178 Great work! I can tell that you have thoughtfully analyzed and evaluated your chosen work and are very well prepared to use this novel as the basis for an essay question during the first weeks of school. Minor elements of the profile may be incomplete, but the profile demonstrates overall effort and insight.

_____139 – 158 I can tell that you have analyzed and evaluated your chosen work and are basically prepared to use this novel as the basis for an essay question during the first weeks of school. However, important elements of the profile may be incomplete and/or lack evidence of sufficient effort and insight.

_____119 – 138 The analysis and evaluation of your chosen work is unclear and demonstrates a lack of preparation to use this as the basis for an essay question during the first weeks of school. Many elements of the profile may be incomplete and/or lack evidence of effort and insight.

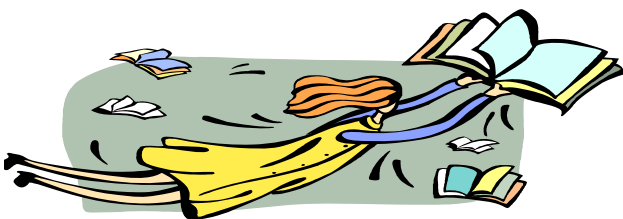
Requirement Three: Complete Vocabulary Work

You may purchase your vocabulary book, *Vocabulary Power Plus, Book Four*, at your school. Please see the AP English Core Lead teacher in your building for details.

Summer work will cover the first three lessons on pages 17 through 46. Each lesson follows a similar pattern. **YOU SHOULD SKIP** the Lesson One, Exercise V essay on pages 22-23 *and* the Lesson Three, Exercise V essay on page 43. You must complete all other material on pages 17 through 46 in your textbook. Be sure to write neatly.

ALL VOCABULARY WORK IS DUE ON THE FIRST DAY OF CLASS.

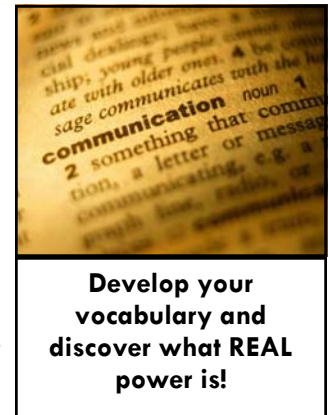
You can be certain that a vocabulary test based on this work will be administered as course work begins in the opening days of the school year.



Take a look at these Literary Terms websites!

http://www.tnellen.com/cybereng/lit_terms/

<http://www.english.cam.ac.uk/vclass/terms.htm>

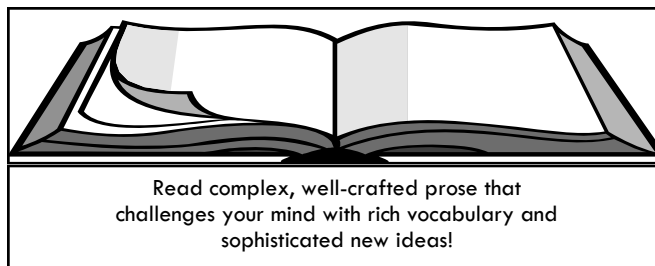


Additional Information

- The 2010 Advanced Placement English Literature and Composition examination is scheduled for Thursday, May 6th — Morning Session.
- To get more information about AP English Literature (and other AP courses), log on to the internet and visit this address:

www.apcentral.collegeboard.com
- To access information about AP English Literature, hover over AP Courses and Exams and click on Course Home Pages when the dropdown menu appears, then click on English Literature and Composition.
- College policies for AP are not set by the College Board. Institutions do not follow the same, or even similar, procedures when they receive AP Exam grades. Many colleges grant credit and placement automatically for qualifying grades; some grant either placement or credit only. Others are still establishing their policies, have different policies for each AP course, or make judgments on other criteria. Students should check with the individual institutions they are interested in attending.

Background Reading



The works listed below are a part of CCPS curriculum. Before entering AP, students should at least be familiar with all of these works, even if you did not read them in your previous classes.

A Farewell to Arms by Ernest Hemingway

The Adventures of Huck Finn by Mark Twain

A Tale of Two Cities by Charles Dickens

Death of a Salesman by Arthur Miller

The Great Gatsby by F. Scott Fitzgerald

The Scarlet Letter by Nathaniel Hawthorne

The Old Man and The Sea by Ernest Hemingway

The Glass Menagerie by Tennessee Williams

Red Badge of Courage by Stephen Crane

A Raisin in the Sun by Lorraine Hansberry

Wuthering Heights by Emily Bronte

Mythology by Edith Hamilton

Antigone by Sophocles

Black Boy by Richard Wright

Medea by Euripides

Our Town by Thornton Wilder

Julius Caesar by Shakespea

Othello by William Shakespeare

The Crucible by Arthur Miller

NOTE:



For those of you who are avid readers and who want to build a reading background for college, see me for a list of reading selections that the College Board recommends. This list is for your information only and is **not** part of the books for the summer reading assignment, nor are they necessarily endorsed by the teacher or Calvert County Public Schools.

Calvert County Public Schools