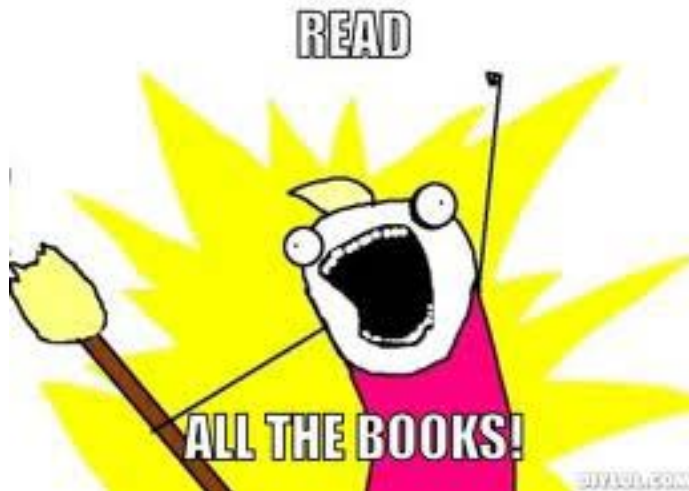


Ms. Neville's AP Literature & Composition 2013-14 MANDATORY SUMMER ASSIGNMENTS



Welcome to AP English IV, and congratulations on stepping up to the challenging and rewarding work this course requires! I'm looking forward to working with each of you next year, and have carefully designed this summer work to prepare you for the sort of critical thinking you will hone throughout your senior year. Additionally, discussion of these readings will dominate the first two weeks of school. These assignments are how you will make your first impression as a reader, writer, and thinker – please take them seriously!

If you need to contact me with questions over the summer, you can email me at mneville@cuyhts.org or send me a tweet @Ms_Neville . This year's seniors have also suggested that I encourage you to become familiar with <http://www.msnev.wordpress.com> as soon as possible, because almost all class information is published there.

DRAMA:

- *The Tragedy of Othello* by William Shakespeare

FICTION (read all three):

- *Jane Eyre* by Charlotte Brontë (current AP Lit students recommend reading this FIRST – it takes the most time.)
- *Lord of the Flies* by William Golding
- *Fahrenheit 451* by Ray Bradbury (this book will set the tone for the whole year!)

CONTEMPORARY FICTION (choose ONE):

- *The Kite Runner* by Khaled Hosseini
- *The Namesake* by Jhumpa Lahiri
- *How the Garcia Girls Lost Their Accents* by Julia Alvarez

*** I HIGHLY recommend purchasing your own copies of these books so you can underline or highlight passages and take notes in the margins as necessary. Please see the attached book buying advice.

REQUIRED SUMMER READING	CORRESPONDING ASSIGNMENT(S)	DUE DATE
<i>Jane Eyre</i>	(1) Reading card (2) Write a 1 1/2 -2 page character analysis of Jane. Focus on one or more of her characteristics and its/their development – do NOT merely summarize the plot. (20 points)	08/21/13*
<i>Lord of the Flies</i>	(1) Reading Card (2) Write a 2-3 page essay responding to the following prompt (adapted from the 2009 AP Literature & Composition test): <i>A symbol is an object, action, or event that represents something or that creates a range of associations beyond itself. In literary works a symbol can express an idea, clarify meaning, or enlarge literal meaning. Identify a symbol from <u>Lord of the Flies</u> and demonstrate your understanding of how it affects the novel as a whole.</i> (25 points)	08/21/13
<i>Fahrenheit 451</i>	(1) Reading Card (2) Respond to the three questions provided in your summer work envelope. (30 points total)	08/21/13
<i>The Tragedy of Othello</i>	(1) Reading Card (2) Respond to the four questions provided in your summer work envelope. (40 points total)	08/21/13
Contemporary literature choice (<i>The Kite Runner</i> , <i>The Namesake</i> , or <i>How the Garcia Girls Lost Their Accents</i>)	(1) Reading Card (2) Respond to the following free-response question from the 2003 AP Literature & Composition test: Novels and plays often depict characters caught between colliding cultures – national, regional, ethnic, religious, institutional. Such collisions can call a character’s unique sense of identity into question. Select a novel or play in which a character responds to such a cultural collision. Then write a well-organized essay in which you describe the character’s response and explain its relevance to the work as a whole. This essay should be 3-4 pages long. (30 points)	08/21/13

- You are welcome to turn in completed assignments early if you wish. You may email them as attachments to me at mneville@cuyhts.org or snail mail them to me at the high school.
- **PUT YOUR NAME ON EVERYTHING YOU TURN IN!**
- Each Reading Card is worth 5 points.

ASSIGNMENT GUIDELINES

- **READING CARDS**

“Wow, I wish I’d known for the past four years how important these things were going to end up being!”

– 2012-13AP Lit student, speaking about Reading Cards

Well, at least now YOU know, so take heed! **Each of your Reading Cards should include the following information:** (1) title (2) author (3) year published (4) brief plot summary (5) main/notable characters (6) major theme(s) (7) notable literary devices or stylistic features (8) 1-3 key quotes, and (9) a statement of overall significance/impact of the novel. If at first you are unsure of what the novel’s overall impact has been, that’s ok. We will always discuss this part in class, so you can add it in after we have done so.

- **ESSAYS** (For *Jane Eyre*, *Lord of the Flies*, and your contemporary literature choice)

AP classes create a unique conundrum regarding essay formatting. While one goal of this course is to prepare you for the AP test, another goal is to simulate college-level work. While 99.9% of written work you submit to college professors will be typed, the writing you do on the AP test is handwritten. During the school year I will be clear regarding which is expected for each individual assignment, but for summer work **the choice to type or LEGIBLY hand-write your essays is yours.** Either way, however, **you MUST double-space your essays.**

- **RESPONSE QUESTIONS** (for *Othello* & *Fahrenheit 451*)

Your responses must be handwritten on the pages provided. These questions are an exercise in being succinct – that is, being able to say a great deal with very few words. You may find it helpful to read the questions BEFORE reading the literary works. Don’t worry, there aren’t any catastrophic spoilers in the questions.

ESSENTIAL FOUNDATIONS

I am assuming that prior to enrolling in this course you have already read the majority of the following works:

Animal Farm by George Orwell
Of Mice and Men by John Steinbeck
To Kill a Mockingbird by Harper Lee
The Catcher in the Rye by J.D. Salinger
A Separate Peace by John Knowles
The Tragedy of Romeo & Juliet by William Shakespeare
The Tragedy of Julius Caesar by William Shakespeare
Antigone by Sophocles

If you are unfamiliar with more than one of these, I highly recommend reading them at some point before or during class. Doing so will help you be able to understand connections that will be drawn in class.

Book Buying ADVICE

For this course, it is highly recommended that you purchase your own copies of assigned novels and plays so you can annotate the text as you read and keep the book for your reference throughout the year. As an active reader, it is also helpful to make a conscious choice of what edition of a book you choose – the font size, style, spacing, and even paper texture can have an influence on your overall reading experience.

Shopping around can make a considerable difference in the amount of money you spend. The following is a list of reputable booksellers I recommend checking out:

ONLINE

Alibris.com – You can find used books here as low as \$.01, but should check shipping costs and time frames before purchasing anything. They work with a network of independent sellers all over the country, so are a little inconsistent – I've purchased books for \$1 and books for close to expected retail prices; I've also had shipments arrive in two days and others arrive in two weeks.

Powells.com – Powell's brick-and-mortar store in Portland, Oregon is a Mecca for book lovers! Their Internet site is also impressive. You can choose from an enormous stock of new and used books. They are very good about pricing used books based on their condition, so you can decide for yourself which copy is the best deal to meet your needs. They have a \$3.99 flat rate shipping fee for orders under \$50, and free shipping for orders over \$50.

Amazon.com -- Amazon has a decent selection of books that are often at slightly discounted prices, but the shipping costs usually bring your overall price back to what you would pay at most bookstores (if you're going to purchase all of your books for the year at the same time, however, Amazon may be a good choice because they waive standard shipping costs for orders over \$50). The most impressive aspect of this company is that they have warehouses all over the U.S., so it is not uncommon to receive your order in two days even when you select the standard (3-5 day) shipping. They also have a network of independent sellers from which they draw additional editions and used books, but as with Alibris, shipping times and costs from these sellers may vary.

Bookdepository.com – This vast, site based in the UK (fear not! they ship free worldwide!) has palatable prices and a huge selection of books. This is where I go when I'm disappointed in the bland inventory elsewhere. And while it may not be particularly relevant to this course, they also have books in a plethora of languages.

IN PERSON

Sadly, many good bookstores have closed in recent years due to the prevalence of online shopping and e-readers. There are, however, still some good options for physically going to a bookstore and browsing around... and possibly even consulting a human being.

Barnes and Noble – enormous stores, but often lack good selection. Salespeople are usually quite knowledgeable and therefore helpful.

Visible Voice – This lovely little place in Tremont always has an interesting selection of books, and the extremely staff will gladly order anything you need that they don't already have (they will call you when it comes in – usually a few days to a week after the order is placed). As an added bonus, you are likely to be greeted by a friendly but well-mannered pug when you enter the store.

Mac's Backs Paperbacks – Here I reveal myself as an east-sider. I must share this resource with you, however, because of all the independent bookshops in the Cleveland area I love, this one is the most likely to have ample new & used copies of the books required for this class. It's located in the eclectic Coventry neighborhood of Cleveland Heights, so you can make an afternoon of your trek to the Other Side. They will also give you credit for trade-ins.

Other reputable independent booksellers in the Cleveland area, just FYI: Horizontal Books (Ohio City); Loganberry Books (Larchmere/Shaker Square); Fireside Books (Chagrin Falls)

