**Summer Reading Assignment**

**Incoming AP English Literature and Composition: Grade 11**

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| **Summer Reading Titles** | **Choose one of the novels from the list below to read.** This list contains common titles listed on previous AP English Literature exams and are from a variety of American and British authors.  Before choosing your novel, please note that some classic and contemporary novels of literary acclaim deal with mature subject content, but they are beautifully written to explore the complex ideas that exist in the world; for this reason, all book choices need to be discussed with parents so every student chooses content they’re comfortable with.    *Brave New World* by Aldous Huxley  *The Color Purple* by Alice Walker  *Frankenstein* by Mary Shelley  *The Handmaid’s Tale* by Margaret Atwood  *The House of the Spirits* by Isabel Allende  *Jane Eyre* by Charlotte Bronte  *Little Fires Everywhere* by Celeste Ng  *Never Let Me Go* by Kazuo Ishiguro  *The Nickel Boys* by Colson Whitehead  *One Flew Over the Cuckoo’s Nest* by Ken Kesey  *The Poisonwood Bible* by Barbara Kingsolver  *Pride and Prejudice* by Jane Austen |
| **Summer Reading**  **Assignments (Annotations and Organizer)** | 1. Annotate your own copy of the text and follow the annotation guide below. At least one annotation is needed per page.  |  |  | | --- | --- | | **Annotation Guidelines** | | | * Underline or highlight key passages and make notes in the margins to interact with the material as you read. * If not using your own copy, use post-it notes to track the following annotation criteria below. | | | **What and How to Annotate** | | | **Setting** – Track physical or literal aspects of setting and how they affect events. | **Symbols** **and Imagery** – Track various symbols and images and identify the effect they have. | | **Character** – Track character development and any changes in a character. | **A few other interactive annotations** –   * Place a question mark (?) next to text that raises questions. * Place an exclamation point (!) next to surprising details. * Draw arrows when you make a connection to the text, ideas, or experiences. | | **Plot and Structure** – Track the development of plots and subplots. | | **Narrator and Speaker** – Track the point of view and perspectives of the narrator or speaker. | | **Word Choices** – Circle powerful words and phrases. |  1. Create a hard-copy, one-sided, 8.5x11 paper, graphic organizer of ideas (chart, Venn diagram, sketchnotes, one-pager, etc.) that explores themes throughout the texts.  * Identify TWO **THEMES**. Keep in mind:   + A theme and a topic are NOT synonymous in AP English Literature studies.   + A topic is merely a short phrase that describes a subject of discussion in the story. (i.e., “The novel *To Kill a Mockingbird* deals with the ***topic*** of racism.”)   + A ***theme*** is the development of a topic where the purpose of the topic is explored. (i.e., The topic of racism in *TKaM* is developed into the theme: “The topic of racism in the mid-20th Century is explored in *TKaM* and the novel exposes hypocrisy of those who often perpetuated the very acts of hatred.”) * Each theme should be written as a full thesis sentence that expresses a universal truth about the human condition that is illustrated in the text. * Include *three specific examples* from the text for support for each theme. |
| **Questions?** | If you have any questions, be sure to email [cbackman@geneva304.org](mailto:cbackman@geneva304.org) |
| **Due Date** | All assignments should be completed and ready to be turned in on the first day of class in the fall. You will need both your annotated novel and assignment to be prepared for discussion and testing over the novel during the first days. |