

Red Bank Regional High School
English IV AP Literature and Composition
Summer Reading Assignment 2017

Welcome to English IV AP Literature and Composition! The summer work is an introduction to the type of rigorous studies we will be doing during our year together. It will require you to go deeper into the text summaries on Spark Notes, Cliff Notes, or Shmoop will. We will be discussing the summer works in more detail in September.

***Beloved* by Toni Morrison**

“Staring unflinchingly into the abyss of slavery, this spellbinding novel transforms history into a story as powerful as Exodus and as intimate as a lullaby. Sethe, its protagonist, was born a slave and escaped to Ohio, but eighteen years later she is still not free. She has too many memories of Sweet Home, the beautiful farm where so many hideous things happened. And Sethe’s new home is haunted by the ghost of her baby, who died nameless and whose tombstone is engraved with a single word: Beloved. Filled with bitter poetry and suspense as taut as a rope, *Beloved* is a towering achievement” (Amazon.com)

The New York Times called *Beloved* the best piece of American fiction in the last quarter of the 20th century. Indeed, it won the Pulitzer Prize for Literature and is a novel that is *particularly* helpful on the AP Exam in May. Therefore, your close attention to this novel is crucial. Morrison’s language is poetic and her narrative is not necessarily linear. This novel is typical of the type of complex reading and discussing we will have during the school year.

Student Choice:

***The Poisonwood Bible* by Barbara Kingsolver**

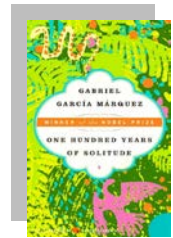
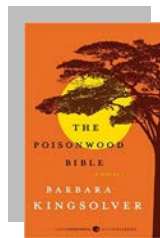
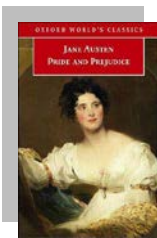
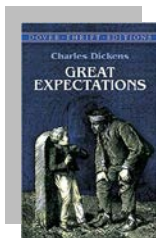
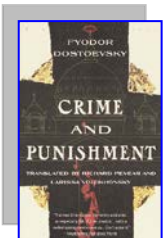
***Pride and Prejudice* by Jane Austen**

***One Hundred Years of Solitude* by Gabriel Garcia Marquez**

***Great Expectations* by Charles Dickens**

***Crime and Punishment* by Fyodor Dostoevsky**

***Invisible Man* by Ralph Ellison**



Red Bank Regional High School
English IV AP Literature and Composition
Summer Reading Assignment 2017

Assignment 1: Read and annotate each novel.

See the *How to Annotate a Book* handout attached. I will be collecting your novels to see how well they are annotated. I do not expect you to underline every sentence, but I do expect you to engage with each novel. Be an active reader. Ask questions, note patterns, etc.

Assignment 2: Reading Reflections

As you read, please keep a reading journal recording pages read, date, etc. The purpose of this journal is for you to become more reflective about what you are reading. Perhaps there are certain questions that you begin to ask. Write them down, ponder, and explore. Maybe a certain quotation stuck out to you. Why? What does this quotation have to say about the work as a whole? Were there any key images in the section you read? Did any character's development change? Was there a significant shift in the plot? **Do not summarize what happens.**

I will be collecting the journals on the first day of school. They will be worth 100 points. Keep them as a Word document as you will be submitting them to Turnitin.com.

Assignment 3: Essay (In Class)

The elephant in the room in any English class is the ability of students to use online resources instead of reading the actual text. It is my goal to make sure that anyone who *does not* read the works receive a grade of a D or lower. I have adjusted my assessments accordingly.

Summer Meeting

In addition to Summer Reading, I *strongly* suggest you attend one summer session in August. During this two hour session, I will be introducing some key aspects of reading poetry. I will also be providing some context for Toni Morrison's *Beloved*.

Choose one:

Tuesday August 8th 2:30-4:30

Thursday August 10th 2:30-4:30

Submission Deadlines:

***Beloved* : August 4th**

***Choice Novel* : September 7th**

TURNITIN.COM

CLASS ID: 15382820

PASSWORD: APLITSUMMER

www.rbrforrest.weebly.com

**Red Bank Regional High School
English IV AP Literature and Composition
Summer Reading Assignment 2017**