

Tuscaloosa Academy AP Literature & Composition (Grade 12)
Summer Reading 2019

All summer reading books **MUST be purchased because you will need them in class and you should annotate in them. While they are not all easy books, each has a compelling story and will help develop you into more sophisticated readers—a necessity for the AP Literature class. Your summer reading, which serves as 20% of your first quarter grade, will be comprised of 3 AR tests (20 pts each), 1 essay (100 pts), and the annotation of 3 books (extra credit).

AR Tests: Before school starts, you will need to take an AR test on each of your three books.

Annotation Extra Credit: Up to 3 points extra credit will be given for each of your well-annotated books.

CHOOSE ONE BOOK BUNDLE

Bundle 1: Russian Literature

1. *Anna Karenina* by Leo Tolstoy
2. *Crime and Punishment* by Fyodor Dostoyevsky
3. *Dead Souls* by Nikolai Gogol

Essay:

“If only it were all so simple! If only there were evil people somewhere insidiously committing evil deeds, and it were necessary only to separate them from the rest of us and destroy them. But the line dividing good and evil cuts through the heart of every human being. And who is willing to destroy a piece of his own heart?”

— Aleksandr Solzhenitsyn, *The Gulag Archipelago 1918-1956*

In a 750 - 1000 word essay, explain how you see this concept at work in each of these three Russian novels. You should use specific textual evidence, discussing the novels beyond the broad brushstrokes of a summary.

OR

Bundle 2: Science Fiction

1. *Brave New World* by Aldous Huxley
2. *Nineteen Eighty Four* by George Orwell
3. *Fahrenheit 451* by Ray Bradbury

Essay:

In response to the relevancy of science fiction, Kaufman and Spooner (2013) of the Huffington Post said: “Who are we? Where are we going? Does what we do today matter? Real science fiction is as close to an intense discussion of philosophy as you can get while still reading fast-paced, page-turning fiction. And it doesn’t always give us the answers. Sometimes it leaves us to answer those questions ourselves, and that discussion is one readers of all stripes relish.” In a 750 - 1000 word essay, explain how you see these concepts at work in these three novels. Consider how these novels are still very much relevant today. You should use specific textual evidence, discussing the novels beyond the broad brushstrokes of a summary.

OR

Bundle 3: The American Immigrant Experience

1. *Grapes of Wrath* by John Steinbeck
2. *The Joy Luck Club* by Amy Tan
3. *Angela's Ashes* by Frank McCourt

Essay:

"No fiction, no myths, no lies, no tangled webs - this is how Irie imagined her homeland. Because *homeland* is one of the magical fantasy words like *unicorn* and *soul* and *infinity* that have now passed into language."

— **Zadie Smith, *White Teeth***

In a 750 - 1000 word essay, explain how you see this concept at work in each of these three novels dealing with the life of the immigrant. You should use specific textual evidence, discussing the novels beyond the broad brushstrokes of a summary.

During the school year

The Sound and The Fury by William Faulkner ISBN-10: 0679732241

Beloved by Toni Morrison ISBN-10: 1400033411

Moby Dick by Herman Melville ISBN-10: 1503280780

The Importance of Being Earnest by Oscar Wilde (online: ActivelyLearn)

The Heart of Darkness by Joseph Conrad ISBN-10: 0143106589

Things Fall Apart by Chinua Achebe ISBN-10: 0385474547

Medea by Euripides (Oliver Taplin's Translation) ISBN-10: 022620345X

Twelfth Night by William Shakespeare ISBN-10: 0451526767

Reference:

How to Read Literature Like a Professor by Thomas Foster

ISBN-10: 0062301675 (For students who didn't buy this junior year)

A Pocket Style Manual by Diana Hacker

SBN-10: 0312542542