

Summer Reading
AP ENGLISH LITERATURE AND COMPOSITION
PARKVIEW HIGH SCHOOL

The Advanced Placement course and examination require extensive preparation and reading. Works selected for study must be of significant literary merit. From the list on the other side of this page, choose works that you think you will enjoy. *If you are suffering with a book or play, choose another.*

Follow all directions on this sheet carefully.

REQUIRED WORK

All your required work should be completed by the beginning of school. All written work is due on the first day of school.

Reading Assignment

1. *The Elements of Style*, Strunk and White. This text is a standard grammar book and style sheet. Study diligently this summer. **You will have a test (major grade) on this text soon after the school year begins.** You may check out one of these books if you like; however, it is a text that you will probably want to own and make notes in.
2. From the list on the other side of this page, read **two** works: **one novel** and **one play** and complete the writing assignment below on **each** work.

Writing Assignment

In order to identify significant issues of the novel and play that you read, select **three** key phrases or brief passages (fewer than 50 words or so) to quote. Include a copy of the passage and identify each passage by section, chapter, and page number or by act, scene, line, and page number as applicable. Respond to each selection in **three** long paragraphs. In the first, explain the passage. In the second, explain its significance to the work as a whole. Your third paragraph should explain why the passage appeals to you - why you chose that particular section of the work.

SUGGESTED READING

Certain works are so standard and widely used in British and world literature that your lack of knowledge about them can be quite a handicap.

The Bible

If you are not familiar with the Bible, you should make time to examine it carefully during the summer so you will not be lost when we address allusions to its stories and characters during the school year. From the Bible, read as much as you can, but especially **Genesis, Exodus 1-20, Job, and Matthew**. You might sample some of the poetry of the **Psalms** such as passages 23 and 100.

Mythology

Edith Hamilton's *Mythology*. If you have a weak background in mythology, you should spend time this summer with this reference text. Knowledge of mythological references is often the key to understanding some of the pieces we will be reading in Advanced Placement. Key sections of the book are:

- Part One: All
- Part Two: Cupid & Psyche, Pyramus & Thisbe, Orpheus & Eurydice, Pygmalion & Galatea, Endymion, Golden Fleece, Phaethon, Pegasus & Bellerophon, Daedalus
- Part Four: Trojan War, Fall of Troy, Odysseus
- Part Five: Aeneas, Atreus, Thebes
- Part Six: Midas
- Part Seven: Amazons

NOVELS

Austen. *Mansfield Park*
Boyle. *The Tortilla Curtain*
Brontë. *Wuthering Heights*
Bunyan. *The Pilgrim's Progress*
Byatt. *Possession*
Camus. *The Plague*
Cervantes. *Don Quixote*
Chang R. Lee. *Native Speaker*
Chopin. *The Awakening*
Conrad. *The Secret Sharer AND Kafka's
Metamorphosis
Lord Jim*
Defoe. *Moll Flanders*
Dickens. *David Copperfield
Hard Times*
Dostoevsky. *Crime and Punishment*
Dumas. *The Count of Monte Cristo
The Three Musketeers*
Eliot. *Middlemarch*
Forster. *A Passage to India*
Greene. *The Power and the Glory*
Hardy. *The Mayor of Casterbridge*
Irving. *A Prayer for Owen Meany*
James. *The Portrait of a Lady*
Jin. *Waiting*
Kundera. *The Book of Laughter and Forgetting
The Unbearable Lightness of Being*
Lewis. *The Screwtape Letters*
Márques. *One Hundred Years of Solitude*
McCarthy. *All the Pretty Horses*
McCrumb. *The Hangman's Beautiful Daughter
The Ballad of Frankie Silver
St. Dale*
McEwan. *Atonement
Amsterdam*
Melville. *Moby Dick*
Morrison. *Song of Solomon*
Mukherjee. *Jasmine*
Ondaatje. *Anil's Ghost
The English Patient*
Orwell. *1984*
Pasternak. *Dr. Zhivago*
Patchett. *Bel Canto*
Paton. *Cry, the Beloved Country*
Remarque. *All Quiet on the Western Front*
Roy. *The God of Small Things*
Rushdie. *Midnight's Children*
Sijie. *Balzac and the Little Chinese
Seamstress*
Tolstoy. *Anna Karenina*
Woolf. *Mrs. Dalloway*

PLAYS

Sartre. *No Exit*
Euripides. *Medea*
Goldsmith. *She Stoops to Conquer*
Ibsen. *Ghosts
Hedda Gabler*
Marlowe. *Dr. Faustus*
Moliere. *The Misanthrope*
Moore. *A Man for All Seasons*
O'Neill. *Long Day's Journey into Night*
Pinter. *The Birthday Party*
Shakespeare. *King Lear
Othello
The Merchant of Venice
Winter's Tale*
Wilson. *The Piano Lesson*