

AP English 12 – Summer 2016 Requirements

Reading Requirement

Students are required to read all of the following books before returning to school in the fall of 2016. Students should read the books in sections of at least forty to fifty pages and one book at a time. Following this plan will help to build better reading analysis skills as well as responsibility and commitment, qualities that will be needed in the course.

Beloved
Ceremony
Invisible Man

Toni Morrison
Leslie Marmon Silko
Ralph Ellison

Do not just read the books; think about what you read. Become engaged with the text. This will mean some **rereading, consulting a dictionary, and perhaps researching allusions made in the text.**

Writing Requirements (due the first day of class in the fall of 2016)

1. **Reading Journal Notes (three sets):** The journal is intended as **a record of your thoughts while reading**. Notes should indicate a close, thoughtful, analytic reading of the texts. *For each book*, take **hand-written** notes **while reading**. Your notes should cover the *entire text* and amount to a *minimum* of 4 to 6 pages (both sides of each page) *for each of the three assigned books*. Take notes on what moves you emotionally or intellectually; what you feel is important or interesting; the purpose or function of literary devices and structural and framing choices (*repetition*, simile, metaphor, allusion, point of view, setting, etc.); significant questions that the text provokes. Notes are typically heaviest at the beginning of a text, level off, and then pick up again at the end of it. You are not expected to cover every angle of each book, but you are expected to produce notes that indicate you've read *reflectively*, that you've *studied* the text, not **just** read it (see samples).

2. **Reader Responses (three):** *For each book*, from your notes, select one *thought provoking question* (a question that does NOT have a definitive answer), or a question arising *from* your notes, and produce approximately two typed pages in response to it. The response should be an exploration, a sort of conversation with yourself about the question's implications and *its relevance to the text OR to life*. Your goal is NOT to arrive at a **definitive** answer to the question (there shouldn't be one if it's a good question) but a **valid** answer – one that the text supports.

3. **Essays (two):** After reading all three of the assigned texts, choose two to write about. From the provided list of topic questions, select two, one for each of the texts you have chosen. For each question write a **fully developed** essay, approximately 3 typed pages in length (double-spaced, Times New Roman, 12 point font). Focus on writing a clear, interesting, well-organized (introductory paragraph, body paragraphs, concluding paragraph) and cohesive (topic sentences for each paragraph and transitions within and between paragraphs), thought-provoking paper. State a **thesis** and develop it. Use specific details from the text to **support your opinions**.

Although papers are not due until the first meeting of the AP class, to facilitate grading and planning the first term curriculum, you are encouraged to e-mail papers to me as they are completed throughout the summer. Be sure you keep copies of all papers submitted electronically. Feel free to contact me through e-mail anytime over the summer. Keep in mind that I will be away periodically and may not be able to respond immediately. My e-mail address is mhuba229@comcast.net.

ABSOLUTELY NO OUTSIDE SOURCES RELATED TO THE ASSIGNED TEXTS – PRINT, ELECTRONIC, OR LIVE – (other than a dictionary, bible, or anthology on myth) SHOULD BE CONSULTED IN COMPLETING ANY PART OF THESE ASSIGNMENTS!!!!

Literary terms

Students are expected to have a basic understanding of **ALL** literary terms included in the list provided to them. **Knowledge of all terms will be tested during the first week of school.**
