

**AP English Literature
Summer Reading Information (2017-2018)**

NOTE - If a student attended the required summer reading meeting, I shared a Drive folder that has all of the documents in it. If you need that folder, please email khinkley@hs-stm.org.

Assignments during the summer have a variety of purposes. They serve as not only an introduction to the AP English Literature course and its rigor but also as a preview of how writing will be treated by your teacher and, eventually, the AP exam graders. The summer assignments also serve as an initial indicator of your writing skill and will be used to measure your progress from the beginning to end of the year.

Because the AP Literature exam and its style are new to you, the essays will be scored on the AP 9 point scale, but this score will not be factored into your semester grade. However, appropriate and timely completion of these assignments is required for enrollment in the course, and you will receive points toward your semester grade for completion of the assignments.

Assignments must be submitted to Turnitin.com (Class ID: Email khinkley@hs-stm.org for ID Password: sabers)

All writing assignments are electronically submitted to Turnitin.com.

Students must enroll in the course's Schoology account. (Access Code: WJZP5-3C2ZN) This account will have information on it throughout the summer. Students need to use it!

Important Dates (Any and all assignments may be completed early)

- June 1 Join the AP class on Turnitin.com and Schoology (see me if you have difficulty)
[Submit Theme Prompt Choice using the Google Form posted on Google Classroom or linked here.](#)
- June 15 Submit Assignment 1: Voice Lessons Reflections on Turnitin.com
- July 1 Submit Assignment 2: *To Kill a Mockingbird* essay on Turnitin.com
- July 15 [Submit your Theme Book 1 Text Choice using the Google Form posted on Google Classroom or linked here.](#)
- August 1 Submit Assignment 3: Theme Project Essay on Turnitin.com
- Remember – Enrollment in the course is dependent upon completion of these assignments on time. Failure to complete on time will result in a change in enrollment for your English course. If you have technical issues, email khinkley@hs-stm.org.**

Assignment Details

June 1, 2017

First, register for the Turnitin and Google Classroom accounts for the class. Codes are on the previous page. Then, review the Theme project options on the following pages and choose one of the theme options. We will be completing a year-long project with this theme, so choose wisely. The theme you choose now will be your theme for the year. [Go to Google Classroom, find the Google Form called AP English Literature THEME CHOICE, and submit your choice or click.](#)

June 15, 2017

Assignment 1 – Voice Lessons Reflections
Due June 15, 2017 on Turnitin.com Assignments Page

Read the PDF excerpt from Nancy Dean’s *Voice Lessons*. The PDF is available on the course Google Classroom. After reading the excerpt, complete the 5 exercises at the end of the PDF.

Each exercise should have a reflection of at least 150 words. Compile your reflections in a document (please number them) and submit to Turnitin.com under the Assignment 1: Voice Lessons Reflection Assignment.

July 1, 2017

Assignment 2 - *To Kill a Mockingbird* Theme Essay
Due July 1, 2017 on Turnitin.com Assignments Page

Read Harper Lee’s *To Kill a Mockingbird*. After reading, respond to YOUR THEME prompt in a well-developed, formal essay. Remember to use specific textual evidence (and cite that evidence using MLA format). NOTE - You are analyzing *TKAM* considering the theme you chose on June 1.

Theme Prompts for *TKAM*:

- It has often been said that what we value can be determined only by what we sacrifice. Consider how this statement applies to characters in *To Kill a Mockingbird*. Think about how characters have deliberately sacrificed, surrendered, or forfeited something in a way that highlights each character’s values. How does the particular sacrifice illuminate the character’s values and provide a deeper understanding of the meaning of the work as a whole?
- A bildungsroman, or coming-of-age novel, recounts the psychological or moral development of its protagonist from youth to maturity, when this character recognizes his or her place in the world. How does the protagonist in *To Kill a Mockingbird* experiences a single pivotal moment in her psychological or moral development? How does that single moment shape the meaning of the work as a whole?
- “And, after all, our surroundings influence our lives and characters as much as fate, destiny or any supernatural agency.” Pauline Hopkins, *Contending Forces*

How do cultural, physical, or geographical surroundings shape psychological or moral traits in a character in *To Kill a Mockingbird*? How do surroundings affect this character and illuminate the meaning of the work as a whole?

- In many works of literature, past events can affect, positively or negatively, the present actions, attitudes, or values of a character. How must characters in *To Kill a Mockingbird* contend with some aspect of the past, either personal or societal? How does the character's relationship to the past contribute to the meaning of the work as a whole?
- One of the strongest human desires is the desire for power. How do characters in *To Kill a Mockingbird* struggle to free himself or herself from the power of others or seek to gain power over others? How does the struggle for power reveal the meaning of the work as a whole?

July 15, 2017

Choose a book to read for your theme. [Go to Google Classroom, find the Google Form called AP English Literature THEME BOOK 1, and submit your choice or click this link.](#) Then, read the book.

August 1, 2017

Assignment 3 - Student Choice Theme Essay
Due August 1, 2017 on Turnitin.com Assignments Page

After reading your chosen text, respond to your theme's prompt (with your chosen text as the "text") in a well-developed, formal essay. Submit your essay to Turnitin.com under the Assignment 3: Theme Project Student Choice Essay .

****Please use MLA format when submitting your assignments. This includes the correct header, spacing, font, and a Works Cited (for essays).****