

AP LITERATURE

SUMMER READING ASSIGNMENT

All summer reading work for this course is due on the FIRST day of school. Failure to turn in any part of the summer reading assignment on the first day will result in removal from the class. Please contact me at cburnette@bullochacademy.com with any questions! Summer reading for AP Literature will consist of 2 assignments.

#1: Choose ONE of the following books:

- **The Memory Keeper's Daughter by Kim Edwards:** On a winter night in 1964 in Lexington, Kentucky, a blizzard forces Dr. David Henry to deliver his own twins. His son, born first, is perfectly healthy, but the doctor immediately recognizes that his daughter has Down syndrome. Rationalizing it as a need to protect Norah, his wife, he makes a split second decision that will alter all of their lives forever. He asks his nurse, Caroline, to take the baby away to an institution and never to reveal the secret. Instead, she disappears into another city to raise the child herself. So begins this beautifully told story that unfolds over a quarter of a century—in which these two families, ignorant of each other, are yet bound by the fateful decision made that winter night long ago.
- **The Curious Incident of The Dog in The Night-Time by Mark Haddon:** Christopher John Francis Boone knows all the countries of the world and their capitals and every prime number up to 7,057. He relates well to animals but has no understanding of human emotions. He cannot stand to be touched. Although gifted with a superbly logical brain, Christopher is autistic. Everyday interactions and admonishments have little meaning for him. Routine, order and predictability shelter him from the messy, wider world. Then, at fifteen, Christopher's carefully constructed world falls apart when he finds his neighbor's dog, Wellington, impaled on a garden fork, and he is initially blamed for the killing. Christopher decides that he will track down the real killer and turns to his favorite fictional character, the impeccably logical Sherlock Holmes, for inspiration. *The Curious Incident of the Dog in the Night-Time* is one of the freshest debuts in years: a comedy, a heartbreaker, a mystery story, a novel of exceptional literary merit that is great fun to read.

After reading the novel of your choice, answer the following questions on a separate sheet of paper. They may be handwritten or typed. You will use these answers for a project during the first week of school, so be sure that each question has been thoughtfully and completely answered!

1. In ONE paragraph, summarize the plot of the novel without giving away everything that happens. Provide the basics (who, what, when, where, and why).
2. Identify the major conflicts in the work.
3. Discuss the meaning of the work as a whole. Not the plot here, but what you think the author was trying to tell us through writing the work.
4. Choose one section of the book that was particularly moving/striking to you and explain why you chose it.
5. Choose three examples of figurative language used throughout the novel and explain the author's purpose in using that device in the passage. How does it impact your reading?

6. Choose two possible themes for your novel and explained how they are developed throughout the novel.

- REMEMBER: Theme is much stronger when written as a statement rather than just one word. Start with your "topic words" and develop those into a statement that illustrates what the author believes based on events in the novel. (Ex: The topic might be power, but the theme would be "power corrupts people, even ones who had once been good leaders.")

#2: Poetry Vocabulary

A large portion of AP Literature is dedicated to understanding and analyzing poetry. Poetry is the genre we tend to resist because it does not follow the same patterns as prose, making it sometimes confusing.

Familiarize yourself with the poetry "vocabulary" words- many of these are already familiar literary devices. **We will take a test over these terms during the second week of school!!** They can be found in this Quizlet: https://quizlet.com/_6111rd (the Quizlet has also been posted on your Google Classroom for your convenience).

Choose 3 poems that you enjoy and bring them with you to class on the first day of school. You do not have to do any writing with them this summer, but be prepared to explain what you like about the poem. IN OTHER WORDS - if you don't think it has "merit" and could be analyzed using some of the poetry vocabulary words, don't choose it!

If you need help looking for poems...

<https://www.poets.org/poetsorg/browse-poems-poets>

<https://rpo.library.utoronto.ca/>

Of course, you can also use Google to look for poems about a specific topic!