

Honors 11<sup>th</sup>/AP English Language Reading List – Summer 2010  
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Congratulations!!! You are enrolled in Honors American Literature and Composition for the first semester. Second semester, you will be taking AP English Language and Composition. The Honors American Literature course will satisfy your English requirements, and the AP English Language course will be an academic elective. You will have the opportunity to take the AP English Language and Composition exam in May of 2010 to be eligible for college credit.

Summer reading is a part of the honors program since so many tests that you will be taking (SAT, ACT, graduation tests, end of course tests, and AP tests) and the courses you will be taking in college require reading and vocabulary usage at higher levels. **Please see the list at the below.** I will provide you with the essay topics **when you return to school.** Please read each book carefully so that you will be prepared for the essays. You may want to take notes on significant events, themes, symbolism, or any of the other literary elements you see as you read.

My expectations of you are very high, and I will grade your essays accordingly. The essay portion of the class is a prime component of your preparation for the AP exam. Working to improve your ability to analyze in essay form is a skill you will work on throughout the year so that you will be ready for the exam and ready for the many college courses that require writing. The SAT also has an essay and grammar section, so be prepared to work on writing and improving your grammar skills. We will review the basic elements of grammar briefly then move to usage, sentence structure, stylistic elements, and rhetorical strategies. **August will be here quickly; do not procrastinate!**

#### **Reading List:**

**You must read *The Adventures of Huckleberry Finn* and then one work from list #2 and one work from list #3. (total of three works – unabridged – no adapted versions)**

**#1. *The Adventures of Huckleberry Finn* – Mark Twain – Required for everyone!!!!!!!!!!!!**

**#2. Choose ONE from the following list:**

*A Gathering of Old Men* – Ernest Gaines

*Oliver Twist* – Charles Dickens

*A Tale of Two Cities* – Charles Dickens

*Persuasion* – Jane Austen

*Emma* – Jane Austen

*Jane Eyre* – Charlotte Bronte

*The Glass Menagerie* – Tennessee Williams

*Death of a Salesman* – Arthur Miller

*Metamorphosis* – Franz Kafka (extremely short!!!)

Any of the science-fiction/fantasy books by Robert Jordan, Terry Brooks, Terry Goodkind, or others of that genre (E-mail me if you're unsure of a selection.) – No *Harry Potter*, *Twilight*, or Tolkien books since many of you have read these already or have seen the movies

**#3. Choose ONE from the following list of works that we will be reading during the school year:**

*The Scarlet Letter* – Nathaniel Hawthorne

*The Great Gatsby* – F. Scott Fitzgerald

*The Crucible* – Arthur Miller

*Their Eyes Were Watching God* – Zora Neale Hurston

*A Lesson before Dying* – Ernest Gaines

*As I Lay Dying* – William Faulkner

Keep in mind that any of these that have movies based on them are often quite different from the original work. SAT, ACT, and AP scores are greatly improved when reading challenging works, so, if you can read more than the three required, I will offer extra credit opportunities for each extra novel/play listed above that you read. I will also have a form for your parents to sign that you have read the books rather than summaries from the internet or watching film adaptations.

Have a great summer!

Mrs. Crapse