

Honors 11<sup>th</sup>/AP English Language Reading List – Summer 2011  
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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 2012 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 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 and for college. Working to improve your ability to analyze in essay form is a skill upon which you will work 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: (total of THREE works – unabridged – no adapted versions)**

- 1. Book #1: You must read *The Adventures of Huckleberry Finn* –no choice for this one!**
- 2. Book #2: You are required to read one work from #2 Book List.**
- 3. Book #3: You are required to read one work from #3 Book List.**

**#2 Book List - 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  
*The Metamorphosis* – Franz Kafka (extremely short!!!)  
*A Raisin in the Sun* – Lorraine Hansberry  
*Cry the Beloved Country*– Alan Paton  
*The Grapes of Wrath* – John Steinbeck  
*A Farewell to Arms* – Ernest Hemingway

**#3 Book List - 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 by **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