Upper School Summer Reading List – 2016 – 2017

ENGLISH I

A Separate Peace by John Knowles
To Kill A Mockingbird by Harper Lee
The Secret Life of Bees by Sue Monk Kidd

Assignments: For each novel, identify a major theme, select a significant passage that reflects the theme, and write a two-paragraph analysis. Include why you chose the passage and how that passage represents the theme you identified in the novel. Due: The first full day of school.

Students will also have a quiz over the content of the novels they have read, including literary elements such as: characters, setting, plot, and similar literary elements. Quiz: The first Friday of school.

ENGLISH I HONORS

Due on the first day of class – Wednesday, August 10

Rubric for all assignments:
1. A good answer shows you know what happened.
2. A very good answer shows you know what happened and how it is similar or different from other important events. It also reflects what you know about the characters and their motivations
3. An excellent answer shows that you have an interpretation of what the author is trying to accomplish overall.

The Secret Life of Bees by Sue Monk Kidd

An epigram is a brief, memorable, and insightful statement which communicates a thought in a witty way.

Epigrams about beekeeping and bee behavior precede each chapter. How does Kidd’s choice of epigram for each chapter connect to the events of that chapter? Each of your 14 entries should begin with the chapter number followed by the epigram. Your written response for each chapter should be 5-7 sentences long and include at least one quote from the chapter. Please submit this assignment in MLA format (typed, double-spaced, 12 pt. font, Times New Roman). See this link for guidance, if necessary.

https://owl.english.purdue.edu/owl/resource/747/01/
A Separate Peace by John Knowles

Complete a project in which you identify and analyze elements of the novel. Address each of the eleven points below by writing a brief paragraph for each point.

- Provide background/historical information about the period in which the novel is set
- Identify the genre of the novel and characteristics of that genre.
- Describe the primary setting of the text – include details related to the location and time period, etc.
- Identify 3 significant locations in the novel and explain the significance of that location to the plot.
- Identify a theme in the novel and describe an event from the text related to your theme. Explain how the theme applies to characters or events from the text (8 sentences minimum).
- Cite and quote three (3) significant quotes and/or passages from the text.
- Explain the significance of each passage and/or explain how it relates to the work as a whole.
- Identify three (3) significant characters from the text.
- Describe the physical appearance and/or personality of each character. Use direct evidence from the text to support your description.
- Include a significant quote spoken by or describing each of those three characters. Copy the quote and include the page number.
- What was the purpose/function of your character to the plot?

Please submit this assignment in MLA format (typed, double-spaced, 12 pt. font, Times New Roman). See this link for guidance, if necessary.
https://owl.english.purdue.edu/owl/resource/747/01/

To Kill a Mockingbird by Harper Lee

Dialectical Journal

A dialectical journal is a journal in which a reader maintains a written conversation with the text. You should use this journal to:

- Pose questions/make predictions about what you have read
- Read closely for details, images, diction, etc.
- Notice/evaluate patterns
- Write analysis and make connections (to history, other classes, other texts, television, movies, personal experience, etc.)
- Document quotes
- Make inferences about characters, symbols, etc.
- Analyze elements of literature
- Record your feeling/reactions

As you read, you should look for passages that stand out to you and respond as to why they did so. What is so important about the passages? Explain. Your entries should be based on inference, analysis,
evaluation and prediction. You are not summarizing! I want to see your comprehension of the novel through your high level entries.

You are required to have at least 1 entry from each chapter in the novel. There are many significant passages in every chapter. You should write periodically in your journal as you complete the reading. Do not read the entire novel and then complete the journal in one sitting.

How should I set up my Dialectical Journal?

Each chapter entry should be on a separate sheet of paper. On one side, quote a phrase, sentence or section of the text. Include proper parenthetical documentation followed by the page number. On the other side write your reaction, which might be an opinion, question, comment. This section should be honest and demonstrate insight and analysis.

This is how you will set up each page:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Chapter #: Title goes here (the chapters are not titled, you will make this up)</th>
<th>Text and main ideas</th>
<th>Reactions and details</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Quote goes here – you may quote a phrase, sentence, or section of the text. Also include proper parenthetical documentation (Author page)</td>
<td>Your reaction goes here – opinion, question, comment, reaction, etc. This reaction should be real, candid, honest, and school appropriate.</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>In this section, record quotes that contain unique examples of author’s style, figurative language, new vocabulary words, thematic moments, character and plot development, etc.</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

ENGLISH II (BUGBY)

A River Runs Through It by Norman Maclean
All the Pretty Horses by Cormac McCarthy

Assignments: For each novel, identify a major theme, cite a significant passage that reflects the theme, and write a one-page thematic analysis essay of how that passage represents the theme you identified in the novel using correct MLA format (typed in Times New Roman, 12 pt. font, double-spaced). Due the first full day of school.

Students will also have a quiz over the content of the novels they have read, including literary elements such as: characters, setting, plot, and similar literary elements. Quiz: The first Friday of school.

ENGLISH II (Wetherington)

Due on the first day of class – Wednesday, August 10

Rubric for all assignments:
1. A good answer shows you know what happened.
2. A very good answer shows you know what happened and how it is similar or different from other important events and reflects what you know about the characters and their motivations.
3. An excellent answer shows that you have an interpretation of what the author is trying to accomplish overall.

All the Pretty Horses by Cormac McCarthy

*Theme is defined as a main idea or an underlying meaning of a literary work that may be stated directly or indirectly.*

For you, what is the one most intriguing theme from the novel from the list provided below?

**Theme**
- Relationships
- Loss of honor
- Finding “your country”
- Journey/travel
- Transition to adulthood
- Isolation
- Violence
- Evils of man
- Justice
- Cultural displacement
- Understanding of animals (specifically horses)
- Nature

Use clear, relevant, and specific examples from the novel to explain how the theme you selected is present in the novel. Your response should include 3 direct quotes (text from the novel) and be a no more than three paragraphs in length.

Please submit this assignment in MLA format (typed, double-spaced, 12 pt. font, Times New Roman). See this link for guidance, if necessary. [https://owl.english.purdue.edu/owl/resource/747/01/](https://owl.english.purdue.edu/owl/resource/747/01/)

A River Runs Through It by Norman Maclean

After reading each section of assigned page numbers, read the corresponding quote and respond to the following questions.

1. Who is speaking?
2. What or whom is being spoken about?
3. When is it said?
4. Why is it important?

**Part 1** (p. 1-25)

“The halo of himself was always there and always disappearing, as if he were candlelight flickering about three inches from himself.”

**Part 2** (p. 26-50)

“...maybe what he likes is somebody trying to help him.”

**Part 3** (p. 51-75)

“...part of the way to come to know a thing is through its death.”
Part 4 (p. 76-104)

“Just give me three more years.”

Please submit this assignment in MLA format (typed, double-spaced, 12 pt. font, Times New Roman). See this link for guidance, if necessary. https://owl.english.purdue.edu/owl/resource/747/01/

Students will have a quiz over the material on August 12.

ENGLISH II HONORS

All the Pretty Horses by Cormac McCarthy
A River Runs Through It by Norman Maclean
Peace Like a River by Leif Enger

Writing Assignment: In some works of literature, childhood and adolescence are portrayed as times graced by innocence and a sense of wonder; in other works, they are depicted as times of tribulation and terror.

Use your summer reading as the focus of an essay in which you identify and explain how the representation of childhood or adolescence in each novel shapes the meaning of the work as a whole.

Due on the first day of class—Wednesday, August 10

ENGLISH III

Must read: The Ballad of the Sad Café by Carson McCullers

Choose one from the following list:
The Great Santini by Pat Conroy
Ethan Frome by Edith Warton
The Old Man and the Sea by Ernest Hemingway

Reading assignments should be completed by the first day of class — Wednesday, August 10.

Quiz over The Ballad of the Sad Café on the first Friday of school and writing assignment due the first week of school.

ENGLISH IV

The Kite Runner by Khaled Hosseini
Frankenstein by Mary Shelley

Reading assignments should be completed by the first day of class — Wednesday, August 10.

Quiz over The Kite Runner on the first Friday of school and writing assignment due the first week of school.
Due on the first day of class—Wednesday, August 10


Band of Brothers documents the epic account of bravery, camaraderie, triumph, and grief as told through the stories of the parachute-infantrymen of “Easy” Company who experienced the Second World War. The various ways in which soldiers cope with the realities of war will be a crucial topic of discussion (and the topic of an essay) during the first several weeks of the first quarter in US History. For this assignment, read *Band of Brothers* and choose two (2) quotations from each chapter that stand out to you. For each quotation, write 2-3 sentences explaining the historical context and the significance of the quote. See below for an example of the assignment:

P. 20

“When the men were issued their rifles, they were told to treat the weapon as they would treat a wife, gently.”

Ambrose is discussing the fact that, in battle, the soldiers would need to rely on their weapons to protect their lives and the lives of their fellow soldiers. Because of this, it was of the utmost importance for the men of “Easy” company to keep their rifles clean and well maintained.

Due on the first day of class—Wednesday, August 10


U.S. Congressman and presidential candidate, Ron Paul discusses the Constitutional foundations of American government and comments on a variety of contemporary political issues. Paul’s approach to politics is straight forward and thoroughly engaging. Paul’s arguments will elicit a wide range of reactions—sometimes forcing one to rethink his or her views and often prompting the defense of one’s view—on issues like abortion, illegal immigration, government regulation of the economy, and U.S. foreign policy. For this assignment, read *The Revolution: A Manifesto* and choose three (3) quotations from each chapter that stand out to you. For each quotation, write 2-3 sentences explaining the historical/political context and the significance of the quote. See below for an example of the assignment:

P. 6

“This revolution, though, is not altogether new. It is a peaceful continuation of the American Revolution and the principles of our Founding Fathers: liberty, self-government, the Constitution, and a non-interventionist foreign policy.”

Here, Ron Paul offers the thesis of his book. Paul lays out his core beliefs and in doing so, suggests that they are rooted in the American political tradition of the Founding Fathers. Clearly, Paul believes that the United States has moved too far away from these founding principles and it will require a peaceful revolution to recapture those ideas.
AP LANGUAGE AND COMPOSITION:

Please read all selections from one of the following writers:

*All Over But the Shoutin’; Ava’s Man* by Rick Bragg

*The Crossing; Cities of the Plain* by Cormac McCarthy

Writing Assignment: In a novel by William Styron, a father tells his son that life is a search for justice.” Use your summer reading as the focus of an essay in which you analyze a character or characters’ understanding of justice, the degree to which the character’s search for justice is successful, and the significance of this search for the work as a whole. *Avoid plot summary.*

Due on the first day of class.

AP ENGLISH LITERATURE AND COMPOSITION

*The Road* by Cormac McCarthy

*The Sun Also Rises* by Ernest Hemingway

Writing Assignment: Palestinian American literary theorist and cultural critic Edward Said has written that “Exile is strangely compelling to think about but terrible to experience. It is the unhealable rift between a human being and a native place, between the self and its true home: its essential sadness can never be surmounted.” Yet Said has also said that exile can become “a potent, even enriching” experience. Use your summer reading to write an essay in which you analyze how a character or characters’ experience with exile is both alienating and enriching and how the experience illuminates the meaning of the work as a whole. *Avoid plot summary.*

Due on the first day of class—Wednesday, August 10

AP HUMAN GEOGRAPHY

Due on the first day of class—Wednesday, August 10


One of Bill Bryson’s first and most beloved books, *A Walk in the Woods*, recounts Bryson’s experience while hiking (most of) the Appalachian Trail. Stretching from Georgia to Maine, the AT provides Bryson with dozens of stories, both sad and happy, historical and fictional, uplifting and spiritual, to tell his readers. This book will serve as an insightful narrative as we discuss the relationship between humans and the physical environment throughout the AP Human Geography course. For this assignment, read *A Walk in the Woods* and choose three (3) quotations from each chapter that stand out to you. For each quotation, write 2-3 sentences explaining the context and the significance of the quote. See below for an example of the assignment:

P. 54

“Now it may seem to stretch credibility to suggest that things like a paved highway, the whoosh of passing cars, and a proper building could seem exciting and unfamiliar after a scant five days in the woods, but in fact it was so.”
Here, Bryson is discussing his experience on an early stretch along the Appalachian Trail. Although he had only spent five days on the trail, he was relieved to be staying a night in the Walasi-Yi Inn. The Inn was constructed by the Civilian Conservation Corps during the 1930s and is one of many places along the trail where hikers can stop for some real refreshment and relaxation.

Due on the first day of class—Wednesday, August 10

AP WORLD HISTORY


An *Edible History of Humanity* underscores the crucial role that food has played throughout human history. According to Standage, food has helped to build Empires, promote industrialization, and decide the outcome of wars—and it continues to shape the world we live in today. This book will serve as a major topic of discussion throughout the AP World History course. For this assignment, read *An Edible History of Humanity* and choose three (3) quotations from each chapter that stand out to you. For each quotation, write 2-3 sentences explaining the historical context and the significance of the quote. See below for an example of the assignment:

P. 49  “Food was extracted as tribute after military victories.”
*Standage is talking about the significance of food to the Incan Empire that thrived in South America prior to the arrival of Europeans in the 15th century. After one tribe conquered another, the defeated would pay a sort of tax in food—usually maize (corn)—to the victor.*

Due on the first day of class—Wednesday, August 10

AP US HISTORY


Bill Bryson newest of many books, *One Summer*, recounts the famous, infamous, and not-so-famous stories playing out in the United States during one very eventful summer. Bryson explores the “Roaring Twenties,” the booming stock market, prohibition, baseball, and trans-Atlantic flight among many other topics. This book will serve as an insightful narrative as we discuss the above-mentioned topics throughout the third and fourth quarters in AP United States History. For this assignment, read *One Summer* and choose two (2) quotations from each chapter that stand out to you. For each quotation, write 2-3 sentences explaining the historical context and the significance of the quote. See below for an example of the assignment:

P. 167  “Prohibition was so flawed, and in so many ways, that even many of those who supported it in principle were appalled by how it developed in practice.”

*Here, Bryson is discussing the effects of the prohibition on the sale and production of alcohol which was mandated by the 19th Amendment to the U.S. Constitution. Bryson clearly believes that Prohibition had a negative impact.*
because it led to political corruption, organized crime, and was very costly, from a financial standpoint, to enforce.

**Due on the first day of class—Wednesday, August 10**


U.S. Congressman and presidential candidate, Ron Paul discusses the Constitutional foundations of American government and comments on a variety of contemporary political issues. Paul’s approach to politics is straightforward and thoroughly engaging. Paul’s arguments will elicit a wide range of reactions—sometimes forcing one to rethink his or her views and often prompting the defense of one’s view—on issues like abortion, illegal immigration, government regulation of the economy, and U.S. foreign policy. For this assignment, read *The Revolution: A Manifesto* and choose three (3) quotations from each chapter that stand out to you. For each quotation, write 2-3 sentences explaining the historical/political context and the significance of the quote. See below for an example of the assignment:

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