

# 2013 SUMMER READING LIST

## 9<sup>th</sup> GRADE HONORS ENGLISH

Read: [\*A Separate Peace\*](#) – John Knowles

There will be an essay or test when the students return in the fall.

## 10<sup>th</sup> GRADE HONORS ENGLISH

Read: [\*The Color of Water\*](#) – James McBride

Each student must keep a reaction journal as they read *The Color of Water*. Below, the novel is broken up into six sections based on chapters. After each section, write a 150 word response to the reading. Your responses can discuss an idea from the reading that you found interesting, a point that the author made that you'd like to debate, or a detail you can relate to. I am looking for deep, insightful thinking in this response, note merely a summary of the plot. Reaction journals must be typed and double spaced. They are due the first day of school.

- Section 1: Chapters 1-5
- Section 2: Chapters 6-10
- Section 3: Chapters 10-13
- Section 4: Chapters 14-17
- Section 5: Chapters 18-22
- Section 6: Chapter 23 to the end of the novel

Choose one (1) book from the following list:

[\*Into the Wild\*](#) – Jon Krakauer

[\*I Know Why the Caged Bird Sings\*](#) – Maya Angelou

[\*The Book Thief\*](#) – Markus Zusak

[\*The Good Thief\*](#) – Hannah Tinti

There will be an in class essay asking you to discuss a theme (or message) from the novel you select during the first week of school.

## 10<sup>th</sup> GRADE US HISTORY I/AP

Read: [\*Essays on Christopher Columbus\*](#) – Zinn, Schweikart, Allen

- [For Additional Instructions, Click Here](#)

## 11<sup>th</sup> GRADE ADVANCED PLACEMENT LANGUAGE AND COMPOSITION

Read: [\*The Jungle\*](#) – Upton Sinclair

[\*The Eloquent Essay\*](#) – John Loughery

Students must read *The Eloquent Essay* and write 1-2 pages of journal entries per essay. Each entry should include the author's purpose and examples of literary devices that the author used to achieve his/her purpose. Why did they use those specific words, images, sentence structure, etc.? This will be due on the first day of school.

## 11<sup>th</sup> GRADE US HISTORY II HONORS/ADVANCED PLACEMENT

Read: *The Jungle* – Upton Sinclair  
*Flags of Our Fathers* – James Bradley and Ron Powers

Read carefully with comprehension of the plot, characters, setting and historical significance in Mind. Be prepared to take an objective test on the first day back to school. Failing this test could result in your dismissal from the course.

## 12<sup>th</sup> GRADE ADVANCED PLACEMENT LITERATURE AND COMPOSITION

Read: *How to Read Literature like a Professor* – Thomas C. Foster

Choose one (1) book from the following list:

*The Things They Carried* – Tim O’Brien (possible offensive language)

*Kafka on the Shore* – Haruki Murakami

*Their Eyes were Watching God* – Zora Neale Hurston

*Love Medicine* – Louise Erdrich

*Invisible Man* – Ralph Ellison

*The Handmaid’s Tale* – Margaret Atwood

*Atonement* – Ian McEwan

*All the Pretty Horses* – Cormac McCarthy

*The Namesake* – Jhumpa Lahiri

*To the Lighthouse* – Virginia Woolf

*Wuthering Heights* – Emily Bronte

*What is the What* – David Eggers

As part of your enrollment in Advanced Placement Literature and Composition, you must submit a portfolio as part of the evaluation process. This will allow me an early glimpse into your writing skills as well as exposure to how you analyze and process. Additionally, this will permit you to introduce yourself to me. **This portfolio will be evaluated and scored.**

1. Before Friday, September 6<sup>th</sup> I want you to select three pieces of writing that you believe best reflect your skills as a writer. The writing should be varied (critical essay, argumentation, short story, autobiographical narrative, etc.), although at least one of the pieces should be an interpretation of a story, essay novel or poem (a critical react would work). It’s possible that an in class essay could serve this purpose. (Note: writing done outside of English class is acceptable as is work that you might have done prior to this year). **Please: no original poetry.** All papers should be typed, double spaced.
2. In addition to your three papers, you must submit a reflexive letter (approximately two typed pages) This letter should include:
  - a. Comment on what you think special or noteworthy about each piece you have selected.
  - b. Summarize what you see as your strengths, weaknesses, concerns and special interests as a writer.

- c. Tell me what books you read last year as well as your favorite books you have ever read and why.
  - d. State your reasons for wanting to take Advanced Placement Literature and Composition.
3. Place the three papers and the reflective letter in a folder with your name prominently displayed and submit the folder to me **before 2:30 p.m. September 6<sup>th</sup>**.

Please note: **Any student who fails to submit a portfolio by the September 6<sup>th</sup> deadline will be required to drop Advanced Placement English.** Advanced Placement English is an academically challenging course that calls for a high level of commitment and responsibility. Meeting deadlines and following instructions such as those given here are critical to your success in the course.

If you have any questions about the requirements, please see me in advance of the deadline. I can be found in room B-5 or email at [belascotj@lcmrschools.com](mailto:belascotj@lcmrschools.com)

On the back you will find the evaluation form used to assess your portfolio:

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

AP Literature and Composition (12)

Mr. Belasco

Opening Week Portfolio Requirement

### **I. Procedures (6 points)**

\_\_\_ Student meets the assigned deadline for submitting portfolio (September 6)

\_\_\_ The portfolio is typed and organized clearly.

\_\_\_ Portfolio contains the required writing (three papers representing different styles, purposes, and audiences.)

### **II. Reflective Letter (8 points)**

\_\_\_ Comments on each piece of writing contained in the portfolio.

\_\_\_ Summarizes what the student perceives as the strengths, weakness, special significance of each piece.

\_\_\_ States clear and specific reasons for wanting to enroll in A.P. Literature and Composition.

\_\_\_ List book read and explain favorite novels with reasons.

### **III. Student Writing (10 points)**

\_\_\_\_ Writing possess a certain vitality and richness of expression.

\_\_\_\_ Writing shows a clear purpose and clarity of ideas.

\_\_\_\_ Ideas in the student's writing are adequately developed and logically arranged.

\_\_\_\_ Writing reveals precise language, effective word choice, and control over sentence structure.

\_\_\_\_ Writing shows careful attention to spelling, capitalization, punctuation, sentence completeness, and proper usage.

Total \_\_\_\_\_ (out of 24 points)

Evaluation of portfolio is based on a total score, with 24 points total possible. Students are expected to score at least 19 points on this activity. This score will provide me a valuable measure for looking at areas of weakness (upon which I can focus lessons) and where you are when you enter the class. This will tie into your exit activity to help to estimate your growth as well.