AP® Literature and Composition Summer Assignment

There are two assignments (selected novel/Shakespeare). You must complete both.

The first essay allows for personal selection as follows:

**Assignment 1** Based on the AP® examinations, the attached list includes many of the authors, plays, and novels that have been suggested for use on the open essay question and about which students have chosen to write. There are, of course, many other appropriate novels and plays. This list will give you a good idea of the range and level of the works that are taught in AP literature classes. Review the prompts before you choose an appropriate work. Caution: While Stephen King and J.K. Rowling may be good writers, their works do not fit the “literary merit” category. If you have a question about your choice, you may email me this summer (holly.duplechain@qacps.org). Do not select a work that was assigned in a previous English class (Of Mice and Men, The Scarlet Letter, The Great Gatsby, Lord of the Flies, etc.).

Select and respond to ONE of the following prompts from previous AP® examinations. Your essay should be approximately one and one-half to two pages, typed, double-spaced, font size 10-12. **DO NOT** title your essay. Avoid plot summary. This is equivalent to an in-class essay, not a research paper. Assume your teacher is your reader, and assume she knows the work well.

a. Choose an appropriate novel or play that depicts a conflict between a parent or parental figure and a son or daughter. Write an essay in which you analyze the sources of the conflict and explain how the conflict contributes to the meaning of the work.

b. Many literary selections use contrasting places (countries, cities, homes, land/sea) to represent opposed forces or ideas that are central to the meaning of the work. Choose an appropriate novel or story that contrasts two such places. Write an essay explaining how the places differ, what each place represents, and how their contrast contributes to the meaning of the work.

c. Writers often highlight the values of a culture or a society by using characters who are alienated from that culture or society because of gender, race, class, or creed. Choose an appropriate play or novel in which such a character plays a significant role and show how that character’s alienation reveals the surrounding society’s assumptions and moral values.

This essay is due **in class** on Thursday, September 5, 2019. Be prepared to give an oral presentation about your work.
Assignment 2  Read one of the following plays by William Shakespeare. Do not choose a play with which you are already familiar. Locate and view a film adaptation of the play you select. Note choices made by the screenwriter and director (Are there scenes or characters missing? Has the plot been altered?). Do these choices effectively portray Shakespeare’s themes? Write an essay in which you evaluate the effectiveness of the adaptation in comparison to the original text. Do not merely summarize the plot. Remember that your teacher is your reader. The essay should be approximately one and one-half to two pages, typed, double-spaced. Do NOT title your essay. Include a Works Cited page documenting the text and film you have selected. This is not a research paper. If you use an outside source for an overview, please include it on the Works Cited page.

Henry IV Part One  
Henry IV Part Two  
The Tragedy of Macbeth  
The Tragedy of Hamlet, Prince of Denmark  
Twelfth Night  
Much Ado About Nothing

This essay is due in class on Thursday, September 12, 2019.

Each of these assignments is designed to familiarize you with AP® essay prompts and to broaden your background in literature in preparation for the course and for college. Do not represent the ideas or materials of others as your own work. If you plagiarize, your name will be given to the National Honor Society Advisor or other appropriate authority.
Suggested Authors/Titles

Achebe, Chinua: *A Man of the People, Arrow of God*
Austen, Jane: *Pride and Prejudice, Emma, Sense and Sensibility*
Atwood, Margaret: *Cat’s Eye, Surfacing, The Blind Assassin*
Bronte, Anne: *The Tenant of Wildfell Hall*
Bronte, Charlotte: *Jane Eyre*
Camus, Albert: *The Plague*
Chekhov, Anton: *The Cherry Orchard*
Conrad, Joseph: *Lord Jim*
Defoe, Daniel: *Moll Flanders*
Dickens, Charles: *Hard Times, David Copperfield*
Doerr, Anthony: *All the Light We Cannot See*
Dostoevski, Feodor: *Crime and Punishment*
Dreiser, Theodore: *An American Tragedy, Sister Carrie*
Ellison, Ralph: *Invisible Man*
Euripides: *Medea*
Faulkner, William: *As I Lay Dying, Light in August, The Sound and the Fury*
Fielding, Henry: *Tom Jones*
Flaubert, Gustave: *Madame Bovary*
Gaines, Ernest: *A Lesson before Dying, A Gathering of Old Men*
Golding, William: *Lord of the Flies*
Hardy, Thomas: *Jude the Obscure, Far From the Madding Crowd, Tess of the D’Urbervilles*
Heller, Joseph: *Catch-22*
Hellman, Lillian: *The Little Foxes*
Hemingway, Ernest: *The Sun Also Rises, Farewell to Arms, For Whom the Bell Tolls*
Hosseini, Khaled: *A Thousand Splendid Suns*
Hugo, Victor: *Les Miserables*
Huxley, Aldous: *Brave New World*
Ibsen, Henrik: *An Enemy of the People, Hedda Gabler*
Irving, John: *A Prayer for Owen Meany*
James, Henry: *The Turn of the Screw, Washington Square*
Joyce, James: *A Portrait of the Artist as a Young Man*
Ken Kesey: *One Flew Over the Cuckoo’s Nest*
Kowaga, Joy: *Obasan*
Lawrence, D.H.: *Sons and Lovers*
Marquez, Gabriel Garcia: *One Hundred Years of Solitude*
Melville, Herman: *Billy Budd, Moby Dick*
Miller, Arthur: *Death of a Salesman*
Morrison, Toni: *Beloved, Song of Solomon*
O’Brien, Tim: *Going after Ciacciato*
O’Neill, Eugene: *Long Day’s Journey into Night*
Orwell, George: 1984
Rhys, Jean: *The Wide Sargasso Sea*
Salinger, J.D.: *Catcher in the Rye*
Sartre, Jean-Paul: *No Exit*
Shakespeare, William: *The Merchant of Venice, Twelfth Night*
Shaw, George Bernard: Pygmalion, Mrs. Warren’s Profession
Shelley, Mary: Frankenstein
Sophocles: Antigone
Steinbeck, John: The Grapes of Wrath
Stoppard, Tom: Rosencrantz and Guildenstern Are Dead
Strindberg, August: Miss Julie
Swift, Jonathan: Gulliver’s Travels
Tartt, Donna: The Goldfinch
Tolstoy, Leo: Anna Karenina
Twain, Mark: The Adventures of Huckleberry Finn
Voltaire: Candide
Vonnegut, Kurt: Slaughterhouse Five
Walker, Alice: The Color Purple
Wharton, Edith: Ethan Frome, The House of Mirth
Wilde, Oscar: Portrait of Dorian Gray
Wilder, Thornton: Our Town
Williams, Tennessee: The Glass Menagerie, A Streetcar Named Desire
Wilson, August: Fences
Woolf, Virginia: To the Lighthouse
Wright, Richard: Native Son, Black Boy