

AP Literature Summer Reading

AP Literature, as the name suggests, has a strong base in literature. In order to establish and maintain the high level of academic thinking required for AP Literature, I have assigned 2 books for summer reading. Because this course will address the breadth of English Literature, we are expected to read all different genres of literature: poetry, short story, novels, essays etc. The summer reading assignment will address one component of the comprehensive look into literature we will take. I look forward to working with you in the fall!

I. Read both:

Aldous Huxley, *Brave New World*
Chinua Achebe, *Things Fall Apart*

Both novels provide an insight into mankind's nature. The depth of the prose and the meaningfulness of the message establish these novels as two of the most profound and insightful of the 20th century. Much of our discussion during the school year will relate back to the themes and symbols present in these two novels.

What to do as you read: As you read, you will fill out a dialectical journal. The quotes and personal responses/reflections to the quotes will allow an attachment to the text and will be helpful for the in-class essay required when you return from summer break.

Dialectical Journals:

-You will need at least 1 **quote** from each chapter. *Brave New World* has 18 chapters (18 quotes) and *Things Fall Apart* has 25 chapters (25 quotes). Remember, the number I have provided you is just a guide; reading is an enjoyment in itself, so don't feel that once you have recorded and reflected upon 1 quotes in a chapter that you have to stop being interested in the text, perhaps 3 or more quotes will interest you.

-Each quote entry should be between 70-100 words.

*****Remember, this is a literature class, we will read 12+ books throughout the school year. Please maintain academic honesty (you need not reference any supplemental material), not doing so may result in a "0"**

Questions to ponder:

1. What does the quote mean or suggest to you?
2. What confuses you about this quote? Why is understanding this quote important to your response to the whole work?
3. Why do you think it is important to you personally and/or to the whole story?
4. How does the quote connect to other ideas in the story?
5. Do the characters remind you of anyone else, in fiction or in history? Explain.
6. What is revealed about the characters through this quote?

If you have any questions, please feel free to contact me: revans@hartdistrict.org