

English IV-AP

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Summer Requirements:

- You must read and complete novel notes for the following:

NOVEL: *The Kite Runner* by Khaled Hosseini

PLAY: Choose ONE of the following plays:

- *Medea* by Euripedes
- *A Doll's House* by Henrik Ibsen
- *A Streetcar Named Desire* by Tennessee Williams
- *Death of a Salesman* by Arthur Miller
- *A Raisin in the Sun* by Lorraine Hansberry

You will easily find any of these titles at the public library or a book store. They are also available in digital versions. If you would like to borrow a copy of *The Kite Runner*, please see Mrs. Kirkpatrick in room 3004. **Please see the following page for detailed instructions on your Novel Notes.** You can expect a reading check test on these works in the first few days of school.

- You should research 3-6 colleges/universities in which you have an interest.
 - A list of elements to research are attached.
 - You will receive a handout in the first week of school on which to record your findings.

Class Materials for the fall

You will need:

- Pencils
- Blue or black pens
- 2-3 other color pens (green, purple, red)
- 2-3 highlighters in different colors
- Lots of college ruled loose-leaf paper
- A binder with dividers

An Overview of English IV-AP

○ From the College Board Description of English Literature and Composition

AP English Literature and Composition focuses on reading, analyzing, and writing about fiction, poetry, and drama from various periods. This course engages students in the close reading and critical analysis of imaginative literature to deepen their understanding of the ways writers use language to provide both meaning and pleasure. As they read, students consider a work's structure, style, and themes, as well as its use of figurative language, imagery, symbolism, and tone. Writing assignments include expository, analytical and argumentative essays that require students to analyze and interpret literary works.

○ The Exam: Wednesday, May 9, 2018.

- Section I: Multiple Choice / 1 hour / 55 questions / 45% of exam score
- Section II: Free Response / 2 hours / 3 questions / 55% of exam score
 - A literary analysis of a given poem
 - A literary analysis of a given passage of prose fiction
 - An analysis that examines a specific concept, issue or element in a work of literary merit selected

by the student

Novel Notes: Instructions

- Novel Notes must be handwritten on college ruled paper and entirely in your own words.
 - Each new section of the novel notes must start on a new sheet of paper and must be clearly labeled.
 - The title of the novel or play (underlined), the name of the author, and the original date of publication should be at the top of the first page.
 - Please consider your handwriting. If you have large handwriting, you should probably be going beyond the minimum page requirement.
- **Part One: Responses and Questions 10 entries (2 pages minimum)**
 - As you are reading each chapter or section of the novel, you should be thinking about and questioning what is happening and why (with the development of the plot and characters). You should also question what the author is trying to convey and how he/she is getting that point across. Why does the author include this detail or that character or this place or that time of year? What is its purpose/function? What do you think the answers might be? Essentially, you should have a CONVERSATION on the page with the book and the author.
 - You should also be responding to the novel. What is your reaction to the events? What do they remind you of? How do you relate to the events and/or the characters?
 - **Part Two: Writer's Style 10 entries (1 page minimum)**
 - You should notice and respond to choices that the writer makes regarding any of the following: diction, syntax, imagery, figurative language, allusions, symbols, sound imagery.
 - Provide **10 examples** of the writer's stylistic choices. **Number and label each example.** Please include the chapter(s) and page number(s). This means you've copied a sentence or a phrase that contains the stylistic choice and identified it. It ALSO means you should write **what effect that stylistic choice produces.** In doing so, it means you've considered what impact you think the author intends to invoke by using it. Next, consider WHY? Essentially, WHAT does the writer want to get across to the reader and HOW does the writer do that?
 - **Part Three: Setting and Significance (1/2- 1 page minimum)**
 - Write down the place(s) and the time period(s) in which the novel occurs. Make sure you include the time of year in relationship to the development of the novel, as well. Seasons are important and shifts in seasons are important. Do include changes in setting and time.
 - Include a discussion of HOW the setting affects the novel
 - **Part Four: Central Characters (1 page minimum)**
 - **Number and name** the major characters and then include a description of the character (physical description and personality description). You must also include whether the character changes during the course of the novel or remains the same. In other words, label the character as *dynamic* or *static*.
 - **Part Five: Symbols/ Important Objects and Significance (1 page minimum)**
 - **Number and name** the major symbols/important objects in the novel. Beside each include not just a description of the symbol but the symbol's significance.
 - **Part Six: Central Themes (1 page minimum)**
 - **Number and identify** the major themes. Under each provide a detailed explanation of how that theme runs throughout the novel. What is the author saying about life and the human experience?
 - **Part Seven: Important Quotes and Significance (5 quotes minimum / 1 page minimum)**

- **Number and identify** the most relevant quotes to you (5 of them minimum). Write down the quote exactly. Make sure you place the words in quotation marks. Please include the chapter or section, as well as the page number of the quote. What does that quote mean? Provide its significance. These quotes should be fairly brief, impactful, and easy to recall.

College Research

Research **THREE-SIX colleges or universities you might attend.**

- Pick at least one in-state school and one out-of-state school.
- Consider the requirements to enter each of the schools.
 - GPA requirements?
 - SAT or ACT scores requirements? Other standardized tests?
 - High school course requirements?
 - Essay requirements?
 - Recommendation requirements?
 - Interview required?
 - Does it have its own application or use the common application?
- Consider the region of the country, including its climate and the area's personality. Yes, cities and towns have personalities—liberal or conservative, for instance.
- Consider the size of the school
- When is the application due? (If you can't find a current date, when was it due last year?)
- What type of student does the college want? Are you that type of student?
- Consider seniors from last year or the year before who share a similar temperament to yours...who are a similar type of student...who approach life in a similar manner. Ask them which colleges/universities appealed to them most and why. What process did they use to ultimately decide on their school? They will serve as great resources. Ask them this summer before they start college.
- Consider visiting those colleges over the summer while summer school is in session. Contact the school for a tour. Also, contact the department head (of your possible major), so you can sit in on some classes that fit your major, as well as some more general classes that everyone is required to take. Walk around campus. Can you imagine yourself attending the school? It needs to be the right fit in order for you to be happy there. You can also write a better application essay and/or scholarship essay if you have actually been there in person.

You need to consider all of the above DURING THE SUMMER because some college applications are due as early as October and November. Scholarships are usually due September 30.

If you are on free or reduced lunch, please look up the QUESTBRIDGE scholarship program. Great schools. Full scholarships.

Common Application Essay Prompts for 2018 (word limit 650 words)

These are provided for your information. We will discuss writing college essays in the first six weeks of class.

1. Some students have a background, identity, interest, or talent that is so meaningful they believe their application would be incomplete without it. If this sounds like you, then please share your story.
2. The lessons we take from obstacles we encounter can be fundamental to later success. Recount a time when you faced a challenge, setback, or failure. How did it affect you, and what did you learn from the experience?
3. Reflect on a time when you questioned or challenged a belief or idea. What prompted your thinking? What was the outcome?
4. Describe a problem you've solved or a problem you'd like to solve. It can be an intellectual challenge, a research query, an ethical dilemma - anything that is of personal importance, no matter the scale. Explain its significance to you and what steps you took or could be taken to identify a solution.
5. Discuss an accomplishment, event, or realization that sparked a period of personal growth and a new understanding of

yourself or others.

6. Describe a topic, idea, or concept you find so engaging that it makes you lose all track of time. Why does it captivate you? What or who do you turn to when you want to learn more?

7. Share an essay on any topic of your choice. It can be one you've already written, one that responds to a different prompt, or one of your own design.