

English III AP Summer Reading

The Adventures of Huckleberry Finn by Mark Twain

(See attached essay)

The Grapes of Wrath by John Steinbeck (Check with Mr. K's Used Books in the River Ridge Market Place Shopping Center).

**All assignments will be due on the first day of class

Enjoy your summer, and I look forward to seeing all of you in August!

Mrs. White

AP English III Essay Assignment: *The Adventures of Huckleberry Finn* by Mark Twain

Prompt: Argumentative mode: Should the novel *The Adventures of Huckleberry Finn* be taught in today's classroom? If so, should the language remain the same or should some elements be censored/altered? Formulate a well-structured argument to present your case. Refrain from using First person point-of-view.

*Remember, include the author's name and the title in your intro.

*Your paper needs an introduction with a thesis stating your position (do not use first person in this essay, as it weakens your stance.)

*Your paper needs a rebuttal paragraph, which politely considers the opposing side's point of view, followed by a firm dismissal.

*Your argument must contain your personal commentary, supported by strong, concrete examples. A good balance is needed; an essay with all commentary or an essay comprised of only examples will not suffice.

*Consider the pros and cons of the book carefully before developing a stance.

*Keep your stance professional and mature; consider that your audience will be your fellow students and me.

*Write with skill and precision; stay on topic; keep your thoughts clear.

*Understand that each word has a purpose, so choose them carefully.

*Final paper should be mechanically perfect.

Readers's Response for *The Grapes of Wrath*

This assignment is a place for you to record your thoughts, feelings, reactions, predictions, connections, and original ideas about the book, chapter by chapter. I also want you to become comfortable in analyzing an author's style (diction, syntax, use of figurative language, etc.)

Sample starters: (Feel free to create your own)

*This chapter reminded me of . . .

*I was so angry when. . .

*My favorite character is. . .

*My hope for the future of this character is. . .

*I loved the part when. . .

*This author writes with long, flowing syntax (sentence structure). . .

*This author's style is often abrupt, and the diction (word choice) is marked by cacophony (harsh, grating words that are unpleasant to the ear; as opposed to euphonious (pleasant sounding))...

*This character is a dynamic character because. . .

*This character is a static character because. . .

*The dialogue in the book is difficult to read because of the author's incorporation of diction (language style common to a particular race, culture, or background).

Class Expectations: AP English III:

1. This is primarily a writing course. You will be writing an essay a week in the second semester, so work to build those writing skills. We will also be focusing on American literature and literary movements.

2. As this is a college-level course, I expect a high level of maturity; we will be working in groups quite often, and a respectful attitude will be appreciated and required. Behavioral problems are *not* expected, but will be dealt with swiftly and fairly. This class is a privilege, so behavioral infractions may lead to your reassignment of an English class.

3. As an AP Language course, we will be focusing primarily on modes of discourse, rhetorical strategies and terminology, argumentative writing, literary devices, and the conventions of grammar. You will gain exposure to these concepts during the first semester of class, along with critical analysis of print and non-print text and major movements in American literature.

4. Second semester focuses on rhetoric and compositions and aligns with the AP Language and Composition course objectives. Students learn to read and write with increasing complexity and sophistication.

Materials and Supplies

*A three-ring binder with loose-leaf paper

*Plenty of pencils and blue/black ink pens; a red pen for in-class editing

*A great head-start would be to check out some AP Language and Composition materials/practice workbooks online. Students who practice the test more often are better prepared!!!

I look forward to meeting all of you this August. Have a great summer; complete your summer reading and assignments. Read everything you can!!!

If you have any questions, my email address is tonya.white@bcsemail.org. Feel free

to contact me during the summer.

Your AP English teacher,
Mrs. Tonya White