



Harding University High School English Department  
**Summer Reading for 2013-2014**

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### AP English III

Welcome to AP English at Harding! Your first assignment in our class is to be completed over the summer, and you should be prepared to turn it in on the first day of school. There are two parts: a fiction novel with an optional writing assignment, and a non-fiction book with a required writing assignment.

Writing should be completed either typed (Times New Roman, size 12, black, double-spaced) or neatly hand-written (lined paper, no frilled edges, single spaced). Essays can be submitted via email to Mr. Speroni at [samuelj.speroni@cms.k12.nc.us](mailto:samuelj.speroni@cms.k12.nc.us) or in hard copy by the second day of class.

**Fiction:** Read the following and prepare for a test on the book in the first week of school. For an extra credit grade, complete the writing assignment below.

- A Lesson Before Dying by Ernest J. Gaines

**Extra Credit Writing Assignment:** Education is very important in this novel, both its attainment and the lack of it. Tante Lou continually refers to Grant as "the teacher." The other men call him "Professor." Yet Grant hates teaching, echoing the feelings of his own teacher, Matthew Antoine. After reading the full book, in essay format (750-1000 words, approx. 2 pages) contrast the opinions of education presented in this novel. Why do some seek it and others consider it a burden? What role does it play in the characters' lives and the life of the community? Be sure to include specific examples from the book (quoted with page numbers).

**Non-Fiction:** Choose **ONE** of the following to read completely and complete the assignment below for your chosen book.

- Freakanomics by Steven D. Levitt
- The Tipping Point by Malcolm Gladwell

**Required Writing Assignment:** For your non-fiction book, choose one of the issues the author brings up. In an essay (750-1000 words, approx. 2 pages) describe the issue and how it fits with the overall theme of the book. Include at least two specific examples from the book (with page numbers). Explain whether you agree or disagree with the author's stance on this given issue.

### AP English IV

**Reading List:** The Things They Carried, by: Tim O'Brien & Catcher in the Rye, by: JD Salinger

#### **EXTRA CREDIT Writing Assignment (extra PAPER GRADE)**

In essay format (750-1000 words, appx 2 pages), discuss the role of loneliness and isolation in each novel. Be sure to include the influences that society, culture, historical time period, and relationships have on each character in your discussion. In what ways are the two main characters alike? In what ways are they different? What lessons can we learn from reading these texts? **Support your answer with CITED examples from both texts.**

Papers can be submitted to Ms. Hogue via email [jeanninej.hogue@cms.k12.nc.us](mailto:jeanninej.hogue@cms.k12.nc.us) as a WORD attachment or as a printed copy in class.

**DUE:** The FIRST day of school

## IB English III

All IB Junior English students are to read Brave New World by Aldous Huxley and be prepared to be tested on it within the first week of school.

Additionally, all IB Juniors must choose one of the following texts and complete the assignment below. All texts can be found at the public library.

- Midnight's Children by Salman Rushdie
- The Color Of Water by James McBride
- Go Tell It On The Mountain by James Baldwin
- Song of Solomon by Toni Morrison

After reading your free choice text, select one of the following essay prompts to address. Responses should be typed, double-spaced, 12-point Times New Roman font. Responses should be 6 – 9 paragraphs, between 1200 – 1500 words. Word count must be included at the end of the essay.

ESSAY DUE DATE:

- A Day—Wednesday, August 28, 2013
- B Day—Thursday, August 29, 2013

Please choose one of the following prompts on which to construct your essay:

- In retrospect, the reader often discovers that the first chapter of a novel or the opening scene of a drama introduces some of the major themes of the work. Write an essay about the opening scene of a drama or the first chapter of a novel in which you explain how it functions this way.
- An effective literary work does not merely stop or cease; it concludes. In the view of some critics, a work that does not provide the pleasure of significant “closure” has terminated with artistic fault. A satisfactory ending is not, however, always conclusive in every sense; significant closure may require the reader to abide with or adjust to ambiguity and uncertainty. In an essay, discuss the ending of a novel or play of acknowledged literary merit. Explain precisely how and why the ending appropriately or inappropriately concludes the work. Do not merely summarize the plot.
- Although literary critics have tended to praise the unique literary characterization, many authors have employed the stereotypical character successfully. Select one work of acknowledged literary merit and, in a well-written essay, show how the conventional or stereotypical character or characters function to achieve the author’s purpose.

## IB English IV

All IB Senior English students are to read Hamlet and Macbeth by William Shakespeare (any versions). You are to research the criticisms for each of these Shakespearean plays. You are to write a 1 to 1 ½ page essay from the criticisms that you read. Writing should be completed either typed (Times New Roman, size 12, black, double-spaced) or neatly hand-written (lined paper, no frilled edges, single spaced). Please document this paper with proper in-text citations and a Works Cited Page. You will be tested the very first class period of the school year on either one or both of the plays.

## IBMYP and Honors English II

All Honors and IBMYP English II students are required to read the novel Joy Luck Club by Amy Tan and complete a paragraph reading log for each chapter. In each Reading Log, cover **at least** setting, characters, conflicts, and point of view significance, as well as any other elements, observations, and connections you find significant. Reading logs are due on the first day of class (August 26, 2013 or January 23, 2013).

## IBMYP and Honors English I

All Honors and IBMYP English I students are required to read the novel To Kill a Mockingbird by Harper Lee and complete a paragraph reading log for each chapter. In each Reading Log, cover **at least** setting, characters, conflicts, and point of view significance, as well as any other elements, observations, and connections you find significant. Reading logs are due on the first day of class (August 26, 2013 or January 23, 2013).