

## Summer Assignment 2021 AP English Literature and Composition

Welcome to AP English Literature and Composition, Class of 2022! We commend you for choosing an advanced English program, and we are thrilled that you have decided to enroll in our course. This will be a busy year, but it will be an interesting and rewarding one as well. We promise to work hard to prepare you for the challenge. Let's get started!

After a focus on rhetoric during your junior year, AP English IV returns to the familiar territory of literary analysis. We will begin this journey with an examination of some prose passages, which will initiate the preparation for the Q2 Essays as well as the Q3 (Novel Essay). You will also examine some poetry, which will help begin the preparation for the (Poetry Essay). The details for the summer reading assignment are listed below.

Every student who will be enrolled in AP English IV during the 2021-2022 school year should read the texts listed below.

Read these **three** short stories:

- "[Sonny's Blues](#)" by James Baldwin
- "[A Good Man is Hard to Find](#)" by Flannery O'Connor
- "[A Very Old Man With Enormous Wings](#)" by Gabriel Marquez

Read these **six** poems:

- "[Beyond This Place](#)" by Clint Smith
- "[Mushrooms](#)" by Sylvia Plath
- "[The Windhover](#)" by Gerard Manley Hopkins
- "[Let Me Tell You What A Poem Brings](#)" by Juan Felipe Herrera
- "[Golgotha Is a Mountain](#)" by Arna Bontemps
- "[An Instance of an Island](#)" by Patrick Rosal

As you read the texts carefully, **pay special attention to and taking notes on** how the author/poet uses specific literary/poetic devices (characterization, symbols, metaphors, figurative language, imagery, allusion, point of view, etc.) to:

- develop meaning
- make a commentary on society
- highlight conflicts relevant to the human condition
- you can use the graphic here: [Graphic and Explanation](#) to help you with your annotations. You can print the stories (they are short), compile C-notes, or complete online annotations.

**Then be prepared to answer this prompt** for one of the texts when you return to school:

Read the passage carefully. Then, in a well-written essay, *analyze how the author uses literary elements and techniques to convey meaning.*

In your response you should do the following:

- Respond to the prompt with a thesis that presents a defensible interpretation.
- Select and use evidence to support your line of reasoning.
- Explain how the evidence supports your line of reasoning.
- Use appropriate grammar and punctuation in communicating your argument

Any additional questions? Please contact any of the teachers listed below. We look forward to working with you next year!

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