

Wilson High School

AP English Literature Summer Reading Assignment 2019/20

(This is not the same as AP English Language; see the Wilson website for the AP English Language summer reading assignment.)

As a student of AP English, you will be expected to begin next year having read at least two books from the list that follows. During the first week of school you will have an essay exam on these two works. The test will mirror, in spirit, if not exact format, the essay section of the AP English Literature exam. On such tests, you are asked to explore your reading through an analytical lens. In doing so, your use of literary devices and depth of thematic exploration are important. Thus, while it will not be required to turn in a formal journal, the English Department highly encourages you to keep an informal journal of your impressions and ideas as you read.

Here are some potential points of literary exploration for you to consider:

- How does the author's use of setting reflect symbolic and/or archetypal concepts?
- How does the novel reflect the aesthetic conventions of its time?
- What relevant issues of social concern are explored?
- What is still relevant about the book today?
- What do you enjoy about the author's writing style? Is it their descriptive clarity? Is it an unconventional use of language? Perhaps it is the flair the character dialogue expresses. Conversely, please feel comfortable in noting which elements of the work you found less attractive and/or effective. But remember: be able to support your assertions.
- Pay careful attention to character development throughout the novel. Which characters are most clearly explored? What do their actions, thoughts, dialogue and presence lend to the work's overall structure (thematically or with respect to plot development, for example)?
- Please: Focus on utilizing the array of critical tools you have developed as you have evolved as a reader and writer. What literary devices do you recognize? Moreover, how do you view them as tools of the author?

Edward Albee—Who's Afraid of Virginia Woolf

Jane Austen—Persuasion

Samuel Beckett—Waiting for Godot

Charlotte Bronte—Jane Eyre

Michael Chabon—Telegraph Avenue

Joseph Conrad—Lord Jim

Charles Dickens—Oliver Twist

Fyodor Dostoevsky—Crime and Punishment

Jeffrey Eugenides—The Virgin Suicides

William Faulkner—The Sound and the Fury

Gustav Flaubert—Madame Bovary

Jonathan Safran Foer—Extremely Loud and
Incredibly Close

E.M. Forster—Howard's End

Herman Hesse—Steppenwolf

Oscar Wilde—The Importance of Being Earnest

Barbara Kingsolver—Flight Behavior

Toni Morrison—The Song of Solomon

Thomas Pynchon—Gravity's Rainbow

E. Annie Proulx—The Shipping News

Joyce Carol Oates—Foxfire

Philip Roth—American Pastoral

Brian Doyle—Mink River

William Shakespeare—The Tempest

Leo Tolstoy—Anna Karenina

John Updike—Rabbit Run

Robert Penn Warren—All the King's Men

Edith Wharton—Ethan Frome

William J. Kennedy—Ironweed

Virginia Woolf—To the Lighthouse

Please note: It is up to students and parents to choose books responsibly. Choices from notable book lists MAY still need to be vetted by parents and guardians. Carefully consider the subject matter of the book and read reviews in major publications if you have concerns.



Wilson High School Summer Reading

This year, we would like you to participate in the Multnomah County Library Summer Reading Program. It is our hope that you thoroughly enjoy your well-deserved vacation. Pursue your own interests and passions, while taking some time to read what you want to read.

The Wilson High School Library will have a summer reading party for all students who complete the Multnomah County Library Card Summer Reading program. We will have a treat during tutor time and you will be entered into a drawing for a gift card. This is in addition to all of the incredible prizes offered through Multnomah County Library!

To be entered into the drawing at the Wilson High School Library Summer Reading Party:

- ☐ Post a “shelfie” of yourself with a book you read in any Multnomah County Library Branch to Instagram. Tag @wilson.hs.lib and Multnomah County Library
- ☐ Come to the summer reading party wearing your summer reading t-shirt
- ☐ Take a picture of your completed game board or a screenshot of your completed online game and bring it to the summer reading party

How to play (Teens entering grades 9-12)

Explore a universe of stories and a galaxy of fun at your library! Read for fun and prizes this summer. It all kicks off June 14. High school teens can play online or on paper.

- 1. Sign up online starting June 14 and track your reading on the mobile site or come in to any Multnomah County library to get a gameboard (it's free).*
- 2. If you play online, enter every day you read about an hour. On the gameboard, mark a space every time you read for an hour or do any of the challenge activities*
- 3. If you play online, the site will let you know when you earn your prizes. When you've filled your first card, you can bring it to the library and choose a coupon or entry in a drawing on or after June 28. Do the same with card 2 (prizes available starting July 13) and card 3 (prizes available starting July 28).*
- 4. When you have filled all three cards, you've completed the challenge! You'll get a prize, a T-shirt (while supplies last), coupons for Oaks Park, Oregon Ballet Theatre, Oregon Symphony and Oregon Children's Theatre, and an entry in the Grand Prize drawing! Claim your prizes by August 31, 2019.*

Adapted from Multnomah County Library. More details available at:

<https://multcolib.org/summer-reading>

PLEASE NOTE: If you are enrolled in AP Language or AP Literature for the upcoming 2018/19 school year, the Multco Library assignment is #3 OPTIONAL. YOUR AP ENGLISH COURSE ASSIGNMENT was passed out by your 2018/19 English teacher in class, AND it is available on the Wilson website.