

Wilson High School

AP English Literature Summer Reading Assignment 2020/21

(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 Literature, 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?

Chinua Achebe—Things Fall Apart
Edward Albee—Who's Afraid of Virginia Woolf?
Isabel Allende—The House of the Spirits
Margaret Atwood—The Blind Assassin or
Cat's Eye
Jane Austen—Persuasion
James Baldwin—Another Country
Samuel Beckett—Waiting for Godot
Charlotte Bronte—Jane Eyre
Michael Chabon—Telegraph Avenue
Sandra Cisneros—The House on Mango Street
Joseph Conrad—Lord Jim
Charles Dickens—Oliver Twist
Fyodor Dostoevsky—Crime and Punishment
Kim Edwards—The Memory Keeper's Daughter
Ralph Ellison—Invisible Man

Jeffrey Eugenides—Middlesex
Louise Erdrich—Love Medicine
William Faulkner—The Sound and the Fury
Gustav Flaubert—Madame Bovary
Jonathan Safran Foer—Extremely Loud and
Incredibly Close
E.M. Forster—A Passage to India
Lorraine Hansberry—A Raisin in the Sun
Herman Hesse—Siddhartha
Khaled Hosseini—The Kite Runner or
A Thousand Splendid Suns
Zora Neale Hurston—Their Eyes Were Watching
God
Kazu Ishiguro—Never Let Me Go

Barbara Kingsolver—The Poisonwood Bible
Jhumpa Lahiri—The Namesake
Chang-rae Lee—A Gesture of Life
Toni Morrison—Beloved or
Sula
N. Scott Momaday—House Made of Dawn
Bharati Mukherjee—Jasmine
Gloria Naylor—The Women of Brewster Place
Joyce Carol Oates—We Were the Mulvaneys
Julie Otsuka—When the Emperor Was Divine
E. Annie Proulx—The Shipping News
Philip Roth—American Pastoral
Arundhati Roy—The God of Small Things
William Shakespeare—Othello
Leslie Marmon Silko—Ceremony
Gabriel Garcia Marquez—One Hundred Years of
Solitude

Jane Smiley—A Thousand Acres
Amy Tan—The Bonesetter's Daughter
Leo Tolstoy—Anna Karenina
Alice Walker—The Color Purple
Robert Penn Warren—All the King's Men

Edith Wharton--Ethan Frome
Oscar Wilde—The Importance of Being Earnest
August Wilson—The Piano Lesson
Virginia Woolf—To the Lighthouse

Richard Wright—Native Son or
Black Boy

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 to Instagram a “shelfie” of yourself in front of any Multnomah County Library Branch with a book you read. Tag @wilson.hs.lib and @multnomahcountylibrary
- 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)

Imagine Your Story

This summer, we'll encourage youth to “imagine your story” with fairytales, mythology, and fantasy. Our Summer Reading dragon, Shu Long, will help. “Shu Long” is Chinese pinyin of “書龍” which means “good reader like a dragon,” and we hope that Shu Long inspires many people to be good readers this summer! Read for fun and enter prize drawings!

New this year, we are excited to offer readers of all ages the option to play our Summer Reading game online! Register [here](#) beginning June 1.

We will have traditional paper gameboards available as well, if possible. Check back [here](#) for information on how to get one.

The game kicks off June 15 and is free to play!

How to play

1. *Log each day you read or listen to a book, or do any of the fun activities listed in the game, between June 15 and August 31.*
2. *Each time you log 15 days (they don't have to be in a row!) you may enter a drawing for prizes which may include books and/or coupons.*
3. *Once you've read 45 days total, you've completed the game! You'll get a T-shirt (while supplies last), coupons for local entertainment, and an entry in the Grand Prize drawing!*
 - a. *Grand Prize: Complete the Summer Reading game and enter to win your choice of a Technology Package that includes a Chromebook, home printer and a \$250 Visa gift card, OR an Experience Portland Family Fun Packages with tickets to sporting events, museums, theater, music and more.*
 - b. *Runner-up prizes (High School): Your choice of a Chromebook or a \$250 Visa gift card, made possible by The Library Foundation.*

*Wilson prizes subject to change

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 2020/21 school year, the Multnomah County Library assignment is OPTIONAL. YOUR AP ENGLISH COURSE ASSIGNMENT was distributed by your 2019/20 English teacher, AND it is available on the Wilson website.