

AP English Lit and Comp
Summer Reading—2011
Mrs. Wooding mwooding@londonderry.org

First, let me say that I am happy that you have chosen to enroll in AP English Literature and Composition. By doing so, you have shown that you are ready and willing to take on the challenges of a rigorous curriculum. To begin our year, I would like you to read two literary works over the summer. They are:

Girl With The Pearl Earring by Tracy Chevalier

The Kite Runner by Khaled Hosseini

Assignment #1: You should prepare to discuss ten quotes from **ONE** of the novels. To be ready for this, you should write out the quotes you have selected (keep them fairly short/ include page numbers) and explain why you think the quotes are significant. Please be aware that a “quote” does not have to be character dialogue—it can be any passage that you feel is significant. Please make sure your quotes are selected throughout the novel (rather than only the beginning or end).

Assignment #2: Choose **one** of the following prompts for the book you didn’t use for assignment #1. Essay should be 2 pages, typed, double-spaced.

1. In great literature, no scene of violence exists for its own sake. Choose a scene or scenes of violence. In a well-organized essay, explain how the scene or scenes contribute to the meaning of the complete work. Avoid plot summary.
2. Select an important character who is a villain / antagonist. Then, in a well-organized essay, analyze the nature of the character's villainy and show how it enhances the meaning of the work. Do not merely summarize the plot.
3. Choose a conflict between a parent (or a parental figure) and a son or daughter. Write an essay in which you analyze the sources of the conflict and explain how the conflict contributes to the meaning of the work
4. Past events can affect, positively or negatively, the present actions, attitudes, or values of a character. Find a part in the novel when a character must contend with some aspect of the past, either personal or societal. Then write an essay in which you show how the character’s relationship to the past contributes to the meaning of the work as a whole.

Hint: I think assignment #1 works best for Girl With the Pearl Earring and #2 with The Kite Runner, but feel free to choose.

DUE ON WEDNESDAY, AUGUST 24TH SUBMITTED TO www.turnitin.com by midnight.

To create an account for our class, go to www.turnitin.com & follow the directions using the information below. Please submit everything as one document (quotes & essay).

*if you have any issues with turn-it-in, please email me your work

*also have paper copies of your work with you on the first day of school

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These two novels should be fairly easy to find, either in a bookstore, on-line, or at a public library.

As you write your responses, be mindful of all of the conventions of good writing that you've learned up to this point in your education and be sure that you adhere to these conventions. Additionally, be ready to take a test on these two novels in the first week we come back to school.

I look forward to hearing and reading about your reactions to these two novels. With a lot of work on both your part and mine, we should have a rewarding year in AP English Literature.

Have a great summer and enjoy your reading.