

# Eleventh Grade AP English Language and Composition Summer Reading Assignment -- Peekskill High School

Next year you will be provided with enriching challenges in reading, thinking, and writing as a student in AP English Language and Composition. Students who demonstrate mastery through achieving a qualifying score on the AP Language and Composition Exam may receive college credit and/or accelerated placement in undergraduate school.

**You must complete the attached assignments by Friday, September 14. . All work must be typed. Use 12 point font and 1.5 space your work. Also, you will be assessed on your outside reading at some point during the first quarter.**

A word of warning: copying assignments from a friend or the Internet is plagiarism. Read the novels and do the work yourself. Be sure to pace yourself and work on this assignment during July and August, as leaving all of the work until the end of the summer will lead to low-quality work and heavy stress. If you are not willing to put the time in this summer, then the heavy workload of an AP course will be a problem all year.

I am looking forward to an exciting year of reading, writing, and learning! -- Mr. Newby

**Assignment # 1:** Read **TWO** books during the summer. Only one book can be a “Quick Read”.

## Quick Reads

<u>Looking for Alaska</u> <i>coming-of-age, conformity, false appearances</i>	John Green	221 pgs.
<u>Keeping the Moon</u> <i>body image, acceptance, coming-of-age</i>	Sarah Dessen	256 pgs.
<u>The Absolutely True Diary of a Part-Time Indian</u> <i>race, family issues</i>	Sherman Alexie	288 pgs.
<u>Bless Me Ultima</u> <i>coming of age, Chicano literature, religion</i>	Rudolfo Anaya	272 pgs.

## Middle-of-the-Road Reads

<u>Bodega Dreams</u> <i>reliving the past, urban dwelling, ethnicity, religion</i>	Ernesto Quinonez	224 pgs.
<u>The Catcher in the Rye</u> <i>coming-of-age, alienation, pretentiousness</i>	J.D. Salinger	224pgs.
<u>The Things They Carried</u> <i>Vietnam war, redemption</i>	Tim O'Brien	256pgs
<u>The Lovely Bones</u> <i>coming-of-age, processing grief</i>	Alice Sebold	328 pgs.
<u>The Color of Water</u> <i>race, understanding the past, identity</i>	James McBride	352 pgs.
<u>The Great Gatsby</u> <i>American dream, disillusion, social classes</i>	F. Scott Fitzgerald	240 pgs.
<u>The Kite Runner</u> <i>Afghani culture, war, redemption</i>	Khaled Hosseini	384 pgs.
<u>Slaughterhouse Five</u> <i>World War II, science fiction, processing grief</i>	Kurt Vonnegut	224 pgs.
<u>Their Eyes Were Watching God</u> <i>race, gender roles, identity</i>	Zora Neale Hurston	240pgs.

## Challenging Contemporaries & Classics

<u>A Confederacy of Dunces</u> <i>false charity, intellectual comedy</i>	John Kennedy Toole	416pgs.
<u>One Flew Over the Cuckoo's Nest</u> <i>paranoia, psychiatric issues, conformity</i>	Ken Kesey	336pgs.
<u>The Bluest Eye</u> <i>race, beauty</i>	Toni Morrison	224pgs.
<u>The Blind Side</u> <i>sports, race, social classes</i>	Michael Lewis	352pgs.
<u>Tortilla Curtain</u> <i>American dream, immigration, inequality</i>	T.C. Boyle	368 pgs.
<u>The Fountainhead</u> <i>the importance of individualism, objectivism</i>	Ayn Rand	720pgs.

## Assignment # 2: “Quotes and Notes”

Respond to each book through “Quotes and Notes” journal entries. For each book, record ten crucial passages, and then develop your own response explaining why the passage is important.

Choose the passages based on the following guidelines:

- a. Discuss two passages that describe the main **character**;
- b. Discuss two passages that reveal the **setting** and establish the **mood**;
- c. Discuss two passages that develop the plot (**exposition, conflict, climax, resolution**);
- d. Discuss two passages that communicate the **theme**;
- e. Discuss two passages in order to develop a Text-to-Self, Text-to-Text, and/or Text-to-World Connections

Quotation	Note/ Response
✓ Cite a passage from the novel here, in quotation marks. Identify the page number.	✓ Analyze the passage according to a, b, c, d, or e above (clearly identify). ✓ Use complete sentences and thoroughly explain the significance of the passage.

## Assignment # 3: Getting to Know the AP Exam

- Purchase *5 Steps to a 5: AP English Language* (2018- 9th edition recommended)
- Read chapters 1, 2, and the glossary of terms (in back).
- ✓ Complete Diagnostic Exam/ Session One (multiple choice questions): Record your answers to all MC questions. Score your exam.
- ✓ Complete **all 3 essays** from Diagnostic Exam/ Session Two (essay questions); handwritten or typed acceptable
- ✓ Please note: This is a diagnostic exam! Don’t worry about getting every question correct; just take it to begin getting acquainted with the AP exam.