

**RISING 12TH GRADE/
AP LITERATURE
SUMMER READING AND SUMMER JOURNAL
2020-21**

Dear Student:

Welcome to 12th Advanced Placement Literature. I am looking forward to a productive and successful year. Please read the information contained in this letter as it explains the reading and journal assignment for the summer.

The works for summer reading and the response journal are connected by the idea of sacrifice. Below are listed the titles of the three works to be read over the summer:

- Aldous Huxley's *Brave New World*
- Eugene Ionesco's *Rhinoceros* (drama)
- George Orwell's *1984*

These works are available in hardback and paperback and may be available online or on Kindle. You may prefer hard copies since with those, you will be able to highlight and annotate. In addition to reading these three works, you will keep a guided response journal. The completed journal is due the first day of the new school year and will not be accepted late. It will be assessed for a grade. Part of the assessment for the journal will be following directions of the required format. **ANYONE WHO DOES NOT HAVE THIS ASSIGNMENT ON THE FIRST DAY WILL BE REMOVED FROM THE COURSE.**

JOURNAL REQUIREMENTS AND CONTENT

The journal should be formatted according to the following criteria:

- Either a spiral notebook of 8 ½ X 11 paper or, on the same sized loose-leaf paper secured in a binder, ringed or tabbed – a paper folder with tabs would be best (no loose pages or pages stapled at the top);
- Either a typed copy or handwritten. If handwritten, it should be completed in BLACK ink.

WHEN I USE THE TERM "ONE PAGE," I AM REFERRING TO A TYPED PAGE; HANDWRITTEN WORK SHOULD BE LONGER. ALWAYS FEEL FREE TO GO BEYOND THE MINIMUM REQUIREMENTS.

The journal should contain the following contents for **EACH** of the three works:

- Title, author, and original date of publication at the top of the first page;
- A list containing major characters with short phrases and words indicating personality traits for each;
- Consider the title of the work. Write a paragraph that explains the significance of the work's title beyond its obvious, most literal significance;
- Two quotations that address significant issues/themes/ideas and a paragraph explanation for each quotation;
- An additional quotation that you feel makes a bold statement; then write a **one page** response in which you explain why you agree or disagree with this statement;
- At least a one page response that addresses the following topic:

The conflict created when the will of an individual opposes the will of the majority is the recurring theme of many novels, plays, and essays. For all three summer readings, choose a character who is in opposition to his or her society. In a critical response, analyze the conflict and discuss the moral and ethical implications for both the individual and the society.

CONTINUED ON NEXT PAGE – KEEP READING!

THE FOLLOWING TOPICS WILL INTEGRATE A DISCUSSION OF ALL THREE WORKS (Each is one response discussing all three works; this is different from the first set of instructions):

- ADDITIONAL RESPONSE #1: Write at least one page explaining themes and ideas that connect these three works.
- ADDITIONAL RESPONSE #2: Even though two of these works are science fiction and the third is an absurd fantasy, all three address issues relevant to our current society. In at least one page, explain how each work presents actions, ideas, or characters that hold some relevance to society today. Make sure to be clear on what we see in the work and their connections to specific actions, ideas, or persons in contemporary society.

(No credit will be given to responses that are merely plot summary [i.e., what happened], though plot should be used discreetly to support ideas.)

Your writing should be mature, clear, interesting, correct, well-organized, and effective.

Have a great summer! I hope you enjoy all three of these works.

“The wisest mind has yet something to learn.”

-George Santayana