AP English 4
Summer Reading 2019

Students in AP English 4 need to read quite a bit. If reading is not a habit of yours, you might want to consider a different course for next year. I do not teach as many works as I would like in AP English 4, so periodically I suggest—and sometimes assign—additional readings. The deeper your background, the more you will bring to the works that we do cover in class. You may find that you have already read some of the titles on the list of suggested readings. Do not use that as an excuse for not reading some of the others; rather, use them as building blocks toward an even deeper background.

Frankenstein
by
Mary Shelley

For the start of the school year, you are required to have read the novel Frankenstein by Mary Shelley. This novel must be completed and your summaries, your reactions, and your thoughts should be recorded in a separate journal that will become your Class Journal for the school year. We will be using the novel as a “jumping-off point” for the new school year. This journal will not be the same journal that you will be using for your summer reading. If you have any questions about your reading assignments, feel free to contact me at tkriz@trinitycatholic.org.

Your Class Journal with the Frankenstein entries will be your journal for the upcoming school year.
From the list of selections printed on the right, I would like you to choose three works to read. I offer the option of selecting two works from the suggested reading list, and one of your own choosing. The works with the star (*) are works that should also be read if you have not done so in a previous class.

While you are reading, I want you to keep a Summer Reading Journal. In this journal, please note your reactions, opinions, thoughts, and ideas in response to the materials being read by you. In other words, after a reading session, put the novel down and write about something that strikes you. Do not simply do a summary upon the completion of the reading session; instead, make this journal a companion to whom you communicate your feelings about what you think about what you are reading. Make connections between/among characters, events, or similar situations you have had or read about. In other words, read and write for yourself and for your development as an AP English 4 student, rather than trying to please me—you’ll soon find out that I am impossible to please—or merely to get a grade.

Your Summer Reading Journal will be collected on the first full day of classes of the new school year. The journal will be assessed as a test grade for the first quarter, so it should demonstrate a consistent effort, providing substantial evidence of your thinking and your academic purpose.

Suggested Works for Summer Reading

The Things They Carried by Tim O’Brien
One Flew Over the Cuckoo’s Nest by Ken Kesey
The Kite Runner by Khaled Hosseini
A Thousand Splendid Suns by Khaled Hosseini
The Road by Cormac McCarthy
The Boys in the Boat by Daniel James Brown
Unbroken by Laura Hillenbrand
*Huckleberry Finn by Mark Twain
*The Scarlet Letter by Nathaniel Hawthorne
*The Red Badge of Courage by Stephen Crane
*The Glass Menagerie by Tennessee Williams
*Death of a Salesman by Arthur Miller