

Advanced Placement English Literature and Composition

2022 - 2023 Summer Assignment

Advanced Placement English Literature & Composition is a rigorous, college-level course in which students read, write, and discuss works critically, with imagination and depth of insight. Students will need to have a broad and deep store of literary knowledge to do well on the AP Exam. This summer assignment is the first of many steps toward that goal. Read this document carefully and follow the instructions. If you have questions or need help, you can **email** me at younja@fusd.net.

PART 1: Introduction to Literary Analysis

- Read the nonfiction book *How to Read Literature like a Professor (Revised Edition)*. Here is a [LINK](#) to an internet copy of the book, or you might consider buying a copy (inexpensive used copies can be found online) so that you can annotate the book as you read. If you are not able to annotate your own copy, then you will need to take notes on the salient points in each chapter. The notes need not be exhaustive or overly detailed, but they should be meaningful and useful to you when we get started working with literature at the beginning of the semester.

PART 2: Novel

- Read the novel *The Great Gatsby* by **F. Scott Fitzgerald** (available at KHS library). As you read *Gatsby*, you should be reflecting on (perhaps making note of) the things learned in the book *How to Read Literature...* and considering how they deepen your understanding of the novel. Additionally, pay attention to and make note of such things as: the **entrance** of new characters, **shifts** in setting (place or time) or tone/atmosphere/mood, **changes** in characters (softening, hardening, epiphanies) or **changes** in relationships between or among characters, **patterns** (including repetition or echoing), **contrasts/juxtapositions**, plot elements (**conflicts, complications, crises, climaxes, reversals**), predictions, questions, memorable lines or passages...

** No written work will be collected for the summer assignment. However, there will be multiple opportunities early on for you to demonstrate that you thoroughly and thoughtfully completed the work, and your success on assignments will be impacted (in part) by utilizing things you learned while completing the summer assignment. Our in-class study of Gatsby will be quick, and if you come to it without having already read and thought about the novel, you'll likely have difficulty keeping up.*

Both *How to Read Literature* and *Gatsby* are enjoyable, engaging reads (though in different ways). So I hope you enjoy the summer reading/notetaking, and I look forward to meeting you in August! - Mr. Young