Welcome to AP Literature! I’m excited that you’ve chosen to challenge yourself, and I look forward to the discussion and writing we will explore this year through the novels we read. To do your best during the school year, you need to stay in practice during the summer which is why I am assigning a summer assignment. This is your off-season training – not as intense but keeps you sharp. Your summer assignment will also help me gauge what specific areas of focus for our class. Finally, the summer assignment is a way to make sure you set your gradebook up for a successful semester.

The Assignment:

1. Read two (or more) books over the summer from the attached list of books that commonly appear on the AP Literature test. These books are not your typical light summer reading – your brain should be working as you read. Some of the books on the list will also show up as options for reading during the semester as well.

2. Take careful and thoughtful notes of the literary elements in the novels. You should address conflict, characterization, point of view, setting, and theme. Please use the attached notesheets so you start building a pattern of how you analyze what you read.

3. Choose a favorite quote from either of your books and do something creative to portray the meaning of the quote and its significance to the text. You could make a poster or collage; write a poem or song; or something else of your own choosing.

4. During the first week of class, we will talk about writing a good timed essay for AP Lit and then write one based on one of the novel you read for the summer. This will be the first product grade for the class.

Summer Contact Info: If you have questions over the summer about the course, your books, or the assignments, please feel free to email me at: jennifer_redlin@dpsk12.net. I infrequently check my email over the summer so don’t expect a quick response.
AP Book List

Wuthering Heights—Emily Bronte
Wise Blood—Flannery O’Conner
Catch 22—Joseph Heller
Notes from the Underground—Fyodor Dostoyevsky
Invisible Man—Ralph Ellison
Moby Dick—Herman Melville
Great Expectations—Charles Dickens
Gulliver’s Travels—Jonathan Swift
Frankenstein—Mary Shelley
The Trial—Franz Kafka
The Metamorphosis—Franz Kafka
The Loved One—Evelyn Waugh
Benito Cereno—Hermann Melville
Miss Lonelyhearts—Nathanael West
The Winter’s Tale—William Shakespeare
The House of Seven Gables—Nathaniel Hawthorne
Wide Sargasso Sea—Jean Rhys
All the Pretty Horses—Cormac McCarthy
Bless Me, Ultima—Ruldolfo A. Anaya
Ceremony—Leslie Marmon Silko
The Color Purple—Alice Walker
Crime and Punishment—Fyodor Dostoyevsky
Cry, the Beloved Country—Alan Paton

Emma—Jane Austen
The Piano Lesson—August Wilson
A Portrait of the Artist as a Young Man—James Joyce
The Portrait of a Lady—Henry James
A Raisin in the Sun—Lorraine Hansberry
Song of Solomon—Toni Morrison
The Stone Angel—Margaret Laurence
The Tempest—William Shakespeare
Their Eyes Were Watching God—Zora Neale Hurston
Twelfth Night—William Shakespeare
As I Lay Dying—William Faulkner
Bleak House—Charles Dickens
Cat’s Cradle—Kurt Vonnegut
Jane Eyre—Charlotte Bronte
The Optimist’s Daughter—Eudora Welty
The Turn of the Screw—Henry James
Who’s Afraid of Virginia Woolf?—Edward Albee
An American Tragedy—Theodore Dreiser
Another Country—James Baldwin
The Awakening—Kate Chopin
The Bluest Eye—Toni Morrison
The Diviners—Margaret Laurence
The Grapes of Wrath—John Steinbeck
House Made of Dawn—N. Scott Momaday
Light in August—William Faulkner
M. Butterfly—David Henry Hwang
The Merchant of Venice—William Shakespeare
Middlemarch—George Eliot
Moll Flanders—Daniel Defoe
Murder in the Cathedral—T.S. Eliot
Native Son—Richard Wright
Othello—William Shakespeare
The Sun Also Rises—Ernest Hemingway
Winter in the Blood—James Welch
A Passage to India—E.M. Forster
A Midsummer Night’s Dream—William Shakespeare
Antony and Cleopatra—William Shakespeare
A Tale of Two Cities—Charles Dickens
The Woman Warrior—Maxine Hong Kingston
Anna Karenina—Leo Tolstoy
Things Fall Apart—Chinua Achebe
A Streetcar Named Desire—Tennessee Williams
The Great Gatsby—F. Scott Fitzgerald
The Scarlett Letter—Nathaniel Hawthorne

A Farewell to Arms—Ernest Hemingway
The Age of Innocence—Edith Wharton
Alias Grace—Margaret Atwood
The Autobiography of an Ex-Colored Man—James Weldon Johnson
Daisy Miller—Henry James
Ethan Frome—Edith Wharton
A Gathering of Old Men—Ernest J. Gaines
Go Tell It on the Mountain—James Baldwin
The Handmaid’s Tale—Margaret Atwood
Hedda Gabler—Henrik Ibsen
The Joy Luck Club—Amy Tan
Much Ado about Nothing—William Shakespeare
Our Town—Thornton Wilder
Pride and Prejudice—Jane Austen
Ragtime—E. L. Doctorow
The Scarlet Letter—Nathaniel Hawthorne
Sister Carrie—Theodore Dreiser
Slaughterhouse Five—Kurt Vonnegut
Snow Falling on Cedars—David Guterson
Sula—Toni Morrison
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