

Highland High School
English 3 AP
Advanced Placement Language and Composition
Summer Reading 2009

This summer, between work, vacation, and relaxation, you will be preparing for a very important year in your academic growth. In the 2008-9 school year, we will be exploring both British literature and preparing for the Advanced Placement Language Examination. In preparation for this, English 3AP students are required to complete the following tasks:

1. Read the novel *Grendel* by John Gardner
2. Read the novel *The Picture of Dorian Gray* by Oscar Wilde
3. Complete three units of *Shostak* Vocabulary Level G

Upon your return to school in September, you will be required to take a written objective assessment on each novel, and another assessment on the three vocabulary units combined. The vocab worksheets will be collected on the day of the test. They will count as your first homework grade, and are to be complete. Any incomplete worksheets will count as a zero. It is not an optional part of the assignment.

Part I

1. Read *The Picture of Dorian Gray*
2. Read *Grendel*
3. To assist your comprehension and insight to *Grendel*, you may visit the following website (and its links):

I am looking forward to discussing these interesting and different literary works with you.

Neither CLIFF, BARRONS, PINK MONKEY, SPARKS (ETC.) NOTES nor WIKIPEDIA ARE ACCEPTABLE SOURCES OF INFORMATION. USE THEM AT YOUR OWN RISK.

Part II

1. Do all exercises for Units 1, 2, and 3 on the worksheets provided (or on lined paper, headed properly) from *Shostak Vocabulary Workshop*, Level G.
 - A. Completing the Sentence
 - B. Synonyms
 - C. Antonyms
 - D. Choosing the Right Word
 - E. Context
2. On the first week of our return to school, be prepared for a cumulative test on units 1 through 3
3. In any subsequent writing assignment, correct usage of any vocabulary word will result in one extra credit point, to be added to any assignment.

Part III – Turnitin.com

Before you leave school for the summer this year, you will be registering with turnitin.com to join my class for next year. There will be periodic topics for discussion board conversations with your classmates. Check your email periodically to be sure you have not missed any topics that require responses! Next year, all written assignments will be turned in on this database that checks for originality. It is a tool that is used by most colleges, so it will be good practice for you to get used to using it. If you encounter any difficulties with your password, you can always email turnitin.com and they will send it to you. You will also be able to access documents that I have posted for my class, including the summer assessment instructions.

Part III – AP test preparation

One of the main goals of this class is for you to become better readers and writers: to be able to “read like a writer, and write like a reader.” To achieve this, you will be expected to read extensively, beyond what you are assigned in class. I have attached a list of recommended readings, but this is a limited list. Please read as much and as often as you can, and when you do, pay attention to the writer’s style. Be prepared to discuss books and essays from this perspective, not just whether you “liked it” or not. I highly encourage you to visit the following website to familiarize yourself with this aspect of your Junior English class.

<http://www.collegeboard.com>

This website will be a useful tool for your junior and senior years in high school. You will be able to sign up for the SAT’s, check out colleges, and go to the Advanced Placement link for valuable information regarding test preparation and recommendations. Click on the AP link on the left side.

One last suggestion: we will be reading, analyzing, and writing op-ed pieces next year. You should read them as often as possible. They are found *opposite the editorial page* in the newspaper. (hence the name, op-ed!). If you do not get a paper delivered to your home, it is fairly easy to find them online. I recommend NYTimes.com. You do not have to pay and subscribe to access all of the opinion pieces.

If you should have any questions regarding your summer assignment, please contact me at: bbrady@bhprsd.org. I check my email fairly regularly. If I do not get back to you within a week, it means that I may be on vacation and will contact you upon my return. Enjoy your summer, and do not hesitate to read any and all other books that you can, both fun and challenging!!

Sincerely,
Mrs. Bonnie Brady
English III
Advanced Placement Language and
Composition

English 3AP
Suggested Reading List

- Harry Potter* – J.K. Rowling Magic, mystery & fun
- I Capture the Castle* – Dodie Smith Teenage Romance & a gothic setting
- Dr. Jekyll & Mr. Hyde* – Robert Louis Stevenson Classic horror tale of the dual nature of man
- The Eyre Affair* – Jasper Fforde Time travel, detective story, literary references
- The Mists of Avalon* – Marion Zimmer Bradley Mystical story of Arthur told from the point of view of Morgan le Fey
- Priestess of Avalon* – prequel to *Mists*
- The Crystal Cave* – Mary Stewart Story of Arthur through the eyes of Merlin
- The Once and Future King* – T.H. White Arguably the best telling of the Arthur tale
- Lord of the Rings* – J.R.R. Tolkien Read the originals – see what the fad is all about
- The Chronicles of Narnia* – C.S. Lewis Allegorical stories of magical creatures in an alternate universe – author was a contemporary of Tolkien
- The Lord of the Flies* – William Golding Shipwrecked students revert to a primitive society
- Pillars of the Earth* – Ken Follett A snapshot of medieval England through the eyes of one family
- Year of Wonders: A Novel of the Plague* Geraldine Brooks Relive the plague year first hand
- Sarum* – Edward Rutherfurd One specific area in England; centuries of life, love, and war
- Katherine* – Anya Seton Medieval life through the eyes of the paramour of John of Gaunt
- The Plague Tales* – Ann Benson A blend of historical fiction & near-future bio-Thriller
- Rebecca* – Daphne DuMaurier Gothic romance
- The Dante Club* – Michael Pearl The Fireside Poets solve a crime based on Dante's levels of Hell
- The Picture of Dorian Gray* – Oscar Wilde
- Jane Eyre* – Charlotte Brontë

Recommended Films

Monty Python and the Holy Grail

King Arthur

Merlin

The League of Extraordinary Gentlemen

Much Ado About Nothing

The Thirteenth Warrior

Shakespeare in Love

Mary Shelley's Frankenstein

Mary Reilly

Any/All of the LOTR films

V for Vendetta

Troy

300

First Knight

A Knight's Tale