

**AP English Literature and Composition
Summer Reading Assignment (2024)**

The College Board requires very specific genres and time periods to be covered before they deem a student ready to take the A.P. test in May their senior year. You have covered a number of these genres in the three years leading up to this class, and we will cover several more before May.

Please read and annotate **ONE** title from the following list:

The Postmodern Period: *Brooklyn*, by Colm Toibin

The Romantic Period: *Frankenstein*, by Mary Shelley

The Horror Novel: *Dracula*, by Bram Stoker

The Science Fiction Novel: *Brave New World* by Aldous Huxley

Once read, consider the following prompt from the 2024 AP English Literature and Composition Exam:

Many Works of Literature explore a character's sense of lacking something important in life. The character perceives an unfulfilled need which may be emotional, spiritual, financial, or something the character does not understand or cannot articulate. [From the selections above] choose a work of fiction in which such a feeling is explored. Then, in a well written essay, analyze how the character's sense of an unfulfilled need contributes to an interpretation of the work as a whole. Do not merely summarize the plot.

In your response you should do the following:

- **Respond to the prompt with a thesis that presents a defensible interpretation.**
- **Provide evidence to support your line of reasoning**
- **Explain how the evidence supports your line of reasoning.**
- **Use appropriate grammar and punctuation in communicating your argument**

This response **WILL NOT** be due the day we get back and meet each other for the first time, you will get time in class in September to compose your response. Essentially, all you need to do is read and annotate over the summer and be prepared to write when we meet in person. To those that have the confidence to write your response before we meet, I commend you and say, "go for it!" I only ask that you time yourself and don't spend more than 45 minutes writing your response, as that is essentially the amount of time you'll have in May. You may handwrite the essay, snap a clear picture and turn it in through Google Classroom, or type it up on a Google doc and submit the same way. Although I encourage typed responses, it really expedites the grading process, it's up to you.

Also – This is not a research paper; you **DO NOT** have to include quotes or citations from the work into your response. Save all the quoting and citing for the M.L.A. papers that are indeed coming later in the school year.

Additionally, at some point over the summer, you must email me and tell me which work of literature you read. I will then direct you to an online scholarly article on the novel that must be printed, read, and annotated. Acceptable annotations include several notes in the margins focusing on vocabulary, author's purpose, and general observations that prove you can engage in scholarly discussion with your academic peers. Failure to contact me will result in a zero for this part of the summer assignment. A grade of 100 will be earned in September when you are able to discuss the content of your article.