

Grade 11-5 AP Literature and Composition
Mrs. Bornstein and Mrs. Mahar
Summer Reading 2025

This course emphasizes close reading and analysis of literature from all over the world spanning genre, era, and content. Over the summer, you will begin working with several quality texts that will help you develop your appreciation of literature. To prepare for your English studies next year, you are required to complete **TWO DIFFERENT SUMMER READING ASSIGNMENTS: 1) FIVE POEMS with annotations AND 2) TWO REQUIRED AP LITERATURE WORKS OFF THE LIST BELOW (PRE-1980 and POST-1980).**

Note: The AP Literature exam expects students to have read books of a certain literary caliber. Oftentimes, these types of books contain difficult, mature, and/or graphic content. Please be aware of this fact when selecting your poems and books.

Assignment I: FIVE EDSITEment Poetry and SWIMTAG Annotations

Open the **EDSITEment** links and peruse the poetry offerings.

Select and PRINT FIVE POEMS sampling from each of the two EDSITEment lists; selecting and printing FIVE poems (sampling both lists) means you will read and annotate FIVE POEMS total.

<https://edsitement.neh.gov/closer-readings/twenty-one-poems-ap-literature-and-composition>

<https://edsitement.neh.gov/closer-readings/twenty-one-more-poems-ap-english>

Read each selected poem a few times (read it out loud and listen to the audio if available) then **ANNOTATE the POEM using the modified SWIMTAG technique** (see link below). At the end of the assignment, you will have FIVE AP Literature EDSITEment poems with SWIMTAG annotations.

[SWIMTAG annotation directions](#)

Assignment II: TWO REQUIRED AP LITERATURE WORKS (One Pre-1980, One Post-1980)

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Select **TWO** of the following for summer reading enjoyment and analysis. Choose **ONE PRE-1980 and ONE POST-1980**. ****Note: Listening to an audiobook only is not sufficient. If you want to listen to an audiobook, you should have the text in front of you as well****

Slaughterhouse-Five by Kurt Vonnegut (1969)

Fences by August Wilson (1986)

Never Let Me Go by Kazuo Ishiguro (2005)

One Flew Over the Cuckoo's Nest by Ken Kesey (1962)

Parable of the Sower by Octavia Butler (1993)

Snow Falling on Cedars by David Guterson (1994)

The Awakening by Kate Chopin (1899)

The Handmaid's Tale by Margaret Atwood (1985)

The Picture of Dorian Gray by Oscar Wilde (1890)

The Poisonwood Bible by Barbara Kingsolver (1998)

Tomorrow and Tomorrow and Tomorrow by Gabrielle Zevin (2022)

The Bell Jar by Sylvia Plath (1963)

Little Fires Everywhere by Celeste Ng (2017)

Jane Eyre by Charlotte Brontë (1847)

The Secret History by Donna Tartt (1992)

Invisible Man by Ralph Ellison (1952)

Lord of the Flies by William Golding (1954)

Their Eyes Were Watching God by Zora Neale Hurston (1937)

Ceremony by Leslie Marmon Silko (1977)

Brave New World by Aldos Huxley (1932)

Hamlet by William Shakespeare (1623)

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