

Honors English 9

The Honors 9 class requires extensive reading outside class; thus, it is a good idea for students to develop a reading habit. Although there is no specific summer reading assignment for Honors English 9, we strongly recommend visiting your library or bookstore several times during the summer. Read books that you enjoy, and try to stretch yourself a bit by reading a book in a new genre. The ninth grade English and History curriculum focuses on world literature and world history, so read about places and cultures from far away or long ago. Ask your librarian for recommendations. You can also look over the books on these links for suggestions.

Random House Booklist for Young Adults:

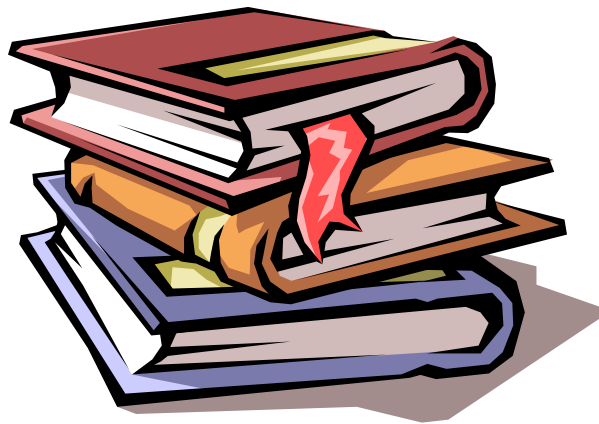
http://www.randomhouse.com/highschool/awards_sub.pperl?cat=204&top=202

Young Adult Library Services Association Best Books for Young Adults

<http://www.ala.org/ala/mgrps/divs/yalsa/booklistsawards/bestbooksya/bbyahome.cfm>

Young Adult Library Services Association Best Books for College Bound Students

<http://www.ala.org/ala/mgrps/divs/yalsa/booklistsawards/outstandingbooks/outstandingbooks.cfm>



Honors 10 Summer Reading

Required Assignment

Willa Cather's novel, *My Ántonia*, was first published in 1918. The story is told by Jim Burden, a young man who grew up in Nebraska during the time that it was a territory. In the last part of the Nineteenth Century, the American Midwest was a frontier, much like Alaska. It was a place settled largely by immigrants from Europe looking for a better life in America and also by settlers from the East Coast chasing the American Dream.

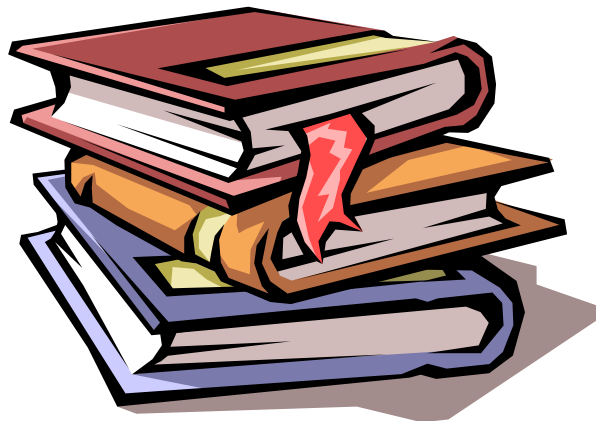
My Ántonia is both an adventure story and a love story. Some questions to ask as you read the book include the following:

- What does the book show about the effect of hardship on various characters? How does our environment shape who we are?
- How are the values of different cultures shown to be different? the same? What conflicts arise from the differences in values among cultures?
- What kind of prejudice do the different characters experience?
- How were the lives of women shown to be limited by custom and society in the novel?
- What does the book show about the effect of the past on our present lives? Does Jim Burden feel nostalgia or regret about his past?
- How do the various characters adapt to changes in their lives? What qualities allow characters to adapt and what qualities prevent them from adapting?

Read *My Ántonia*, preparing reading notes, listing and defining new vocabulary words, and thinking thoroughly about the ideas developed in the novel. Come to class at the beginning of the year ready to share your notes and ready to discuss the novel in an essay.

Other highly recommended activities:

Have an opinion. Read the news, letters to the editor, and editorials or other nonfiction articles about events happening in America. Look for historic links between current events and events from long ago.

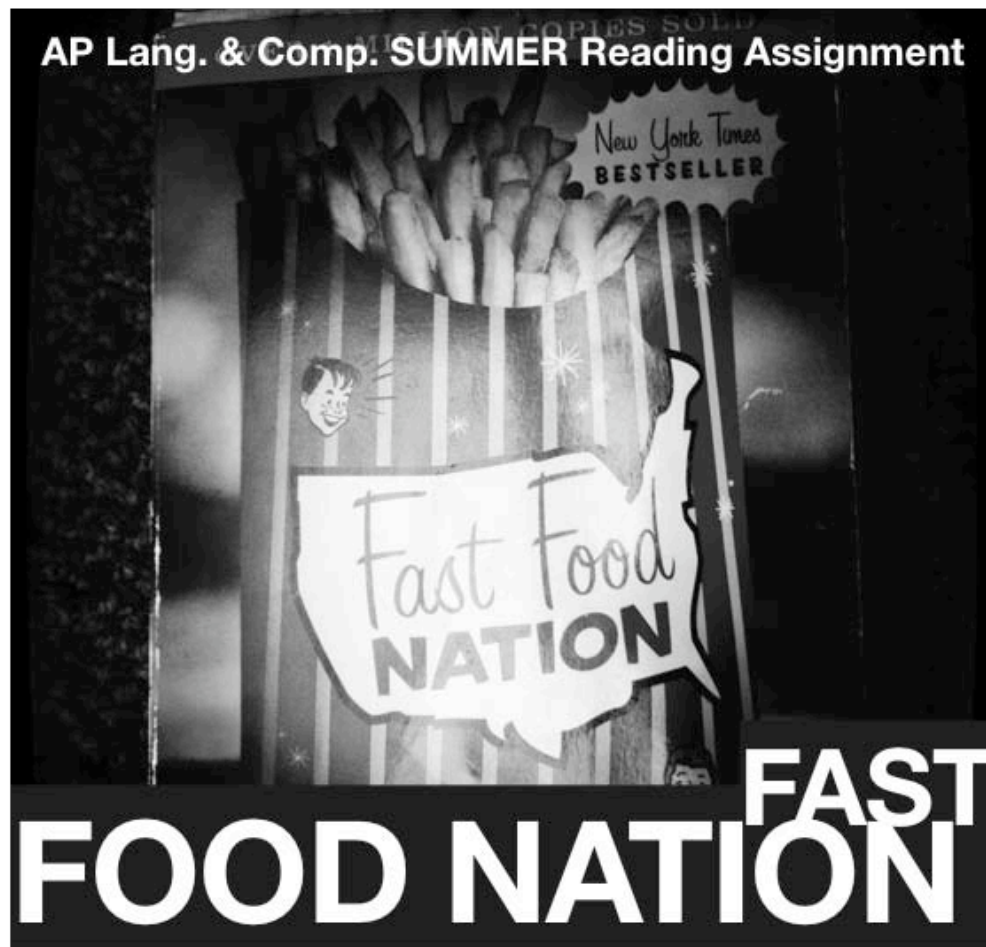


AP Language and Composition Summer Reading

The AP Language and Composition test has three essays: argumentation, rhetorical analysis, and synthesis. To prepare for these, we have a **required reading assignment** students must complete by the first day of class.

Required:

Over the summer, please read and take notes on *Fast Food Nation* by Eric Schlosser and be prepared for an assignment on this reading during the first week of school.



Suggestions for annotation:

Read

Fast Food Nation by Eric Schlosser

Annotate

Think

S.M.E.L.L. – Evaluating argumentation and persuasion (with rhetorical appeals)

Sender/receiver relationship: Who is the speaker? Who is the audience?
What is the tone directed from one to the other?

Message: What is the content and/or claim?

Evidence: What kind of evidence is given and to what extent?

Logic: What is the quality of the reasoning? What types of appeals are being used?

Language: What stylistic and rhetorical devices are being employed?

due date	location	what	
8/16/11	SOUTH HIGH	TEST 1ST WEEK	An optional discussion forum is available at moodle.asdk12.org . Look under South High AP Lang summer reading - enrollment code "food." This will be monitored by Ms. Wright-Elson but is for any class.

AP Literature and Composition Summer Reading

Here is a summer study plan for the AP Literature and Composition course. Please note that the first part is required. You will be asked to complete a graded writing assignment on the required reading during the first week of class.

Required:

Read a novel or play of literary merit by an author whose work you have studied before in English class. Choose another book-length work by this author and read it carefully, taking notes on style, characters, themes, and imagery. Be ready to write an essay on these readings to be completed during the first week of school.

For instance, if you have read *Of Mice and Men*, you might read *Grapes of Wrath* or *East of Eden* by Steinbeck. *Old Man and the Sea* by Hemingway could be paired with *For Whom the Bell Tolls*. *The Crucible* could be a companion play to *Death of a Salesman* by Arthur Miller. The possibilities are limitless. Here are some more pairings: Hawthorne's *Scarlet Letter* and *House of the Seven Gables*, Twain's *Adventures of Huckleberry Finn* and *Adventures of Tom Sawyer*, Orwell's *Animal Farm* and *1984*, Fitzgerald's *Great Gatsby* and *This Side of Paradise*, and Morrison's *The Bluest Eye* and *Song of Solomon*. Some books have sequels that work well, for example, Knowles' *Separate Peace* and *Peace Breaks Out*, or Potok's *The Chosen* and *The Promise*.

Highly recommended:

Read whatever fiction, short stories, poetry, and nonfiction catch your attention. The reading required for this class is extensive, so it would be useful to have a reading habit before you begin class.

Suggested Activity:

Reading the Bible, mythology, and Shakespeare will help you recognize allusions in the texts we read during class. Edith Hamilton's *Mythology* is a good introduction to Greek and Roman myths. Many good Shakespeare plays are available on DVD.

