

Welcome to AP Literature!

Reading is one of the best things you can do to prepare yourself for the challenges of the upcoming school year and beyond. Now more than ever, it is important to sharpen your critical reading skills, expand your vocabulary and enhance your focus and imagination - all in the comfort of your own home. There's no better way to accomplish this than by sitting down with a good book.

We are asking that you, as an AP Literature student, read at least one novel of **your choice** this summer.

The novels marked by an asterisk indicate those which are on the Northside approved book list. Other titles may contain adult themes and content, so we encourage you to do some research before selecting a title.

You can check out digital books on Sora, Libby, and Overdrive through your school library.

Happy reading!

Reading Choice List (Assignment is Below)

Romance		
2. 3.	<i>Frankly In Love</i> by David Yoon <i>Just Listen</i> by Sarah Dessen <i>Like Water for Chocolate</i> by Laura Esquivel <i>Pride and Prejudice</i> * by Jane Austen	
Sci F	Sci Fi, Dystopian, Post Apocalyptic	
1. 2. 3. 4. 5. 6.	1Q84 by Haruki Murakami The Andromeda Strain by Michael Crichton Exit West by Mohsin Hamid The Man in the High Castle by Philip K. Dick The Martian by Andy Weir Never Let Me Go by Kazuo Ishiguro Riot Baby by Tochi Onyebuchi Station Eleven by Emily St. Jean Mandel	
Myst	Mystery	
2. 3. 4. 5. 6.	All The Truth That's In Me by Julie Berry Bel Canto by Ann Patchett Bellweather Rhapsody by Kate Racculia The Curious Incident of the Dog in the Nighttime [*] by Mark Haddon The English Patient by Michael Ondaatje Everything I Never Told You by Celeste Ng Room by Emma Donoghue	

- 8. Shadow of the Wind by Carlos Ruiz Safon
- 9. *The Thirteenth Tale* by Diane Setterfield
- 10. The Twelve Lives of Samuel Hawley by Hannah Tinti

Horror/Thriller

- 1. *Blue Moon* by Lee Child
- 2. Gwendy's Button Box by Stephen King and Richard Chizmar
- 3. The Haunting of Hill House by Shirley Jackson
- 4. A Headful of Ghosts by Paul Tremblay
- 5. Lisey's Story by Stephen King
- 6. A Madness So Discreet by Mindy McGinnis
- 7. *The Queen of the Damned* by Anne Rice
- 8. *The Raven's Tale* by Cat Winters
- 9. *Room* by Emma Donoghue
- 10. Zone One by Colson Whitehead

Historical Fiction

- 1. All the Light We Cannot See by Anthony Doerr
- 2. Fruit of the Drunken Tree by Ingrid Rojas Contreras
- 3. A God in Ruins by Kate Atkinson
- 4. *Lincoln in the Bardo* by George Saunders
- 5. *The Nickel Boys* by Colson Whitehead
- 6. *Refuge* by Dina Nayeri
- 7. A Thousand Splendid Suns by Khaled Hosseini
- 8. The Underground Railroad by Colson Whitehead
- 9. Washington Black by Esi Edugyan
- 10. The Water Dancer by Ta-Nahisi Coates
- 11. The Yellow Birds by Kevin Powers

Family Drama

- 1. East of Eden by John Steinbeck
- 2. The God of Small Things by Arundhati Roy
- 3. The House of Spirits by Isabel Allende
- 4. *The Joy Luck Club** by Amy Tan
- 5. Little Fires Everywhere by Celeste Ng
- 6. The Memory Keeper's Daughter by Kim Edwards
- 7. A Tree Grows in Brooklyn by Betty Smith
- 8. Sing, Unburied, Sing by Jesmyn Ward
- 9. We the Animals by Justin Torres

Books with Strong Female Protagonists

- 1. Another Brooklyn by Jacqueline Woodson
- 2. *A Place for Us* by Fatima Farheen Mirza
- 3. The Book of Longings by Sue Monk Kidd
- 4. Circe by Madeline Miller
- 5. Eleanor Oliphant is Completely Fine by Gail Honeyman
- 6. Flight Behavior by Barbara Kingsolver
- 7. *The Friend* by Sigrid Nunez
- 8. The Other Americans by Lalami, Laila
- 9. Out of The Easy by Ruta Sepetys
- 10. *A Tale for the Time Being* by Ruth Ozeki
- 11. We Are Not From Here by Jenny Torres Sanchez
- 12. Where the Crawdads Sing by Delia Owens
- 13. With The Fire on High by Elizabeth Acevedo

Books with Strong Male Protagonists

- 1. Blood Meridian by Cormac McCarthy
- 1. The Boy In The Black Suit by Jason Reynolds
- 2. *Dear Edward* by Ann Napolitano
- 3. LaRose by Louise Erdrich
- 4. Lonesome Dove by Larry McMurty
- 5. *News of the World* by Paulette Jiles
- 6. On Earth We're Briefly Gorgeous by Ocean Vuong

Relatable Stories of High School Drama

- 1. The Absolutely True Diary of a Part-Time Indian by Sherman Alexie
- 2. *Goodbye Days* by Jeff Zentner
- 3. Little Fires Everywhere by Celeste Ng
- 4. *Prep* by Curtis Sittenfeld
- 5. *Tradition* by Brendon Kiely
- 6. *The Topeka School* by Ben Lerner
- 7. Us Against You by Fredrik Backman

Coming of Age

- 1. *Dig* by A.S. King
- 1. Everyone Knows You Go Home by Natalia Sylvester
- 2. Fruit of the Drunken Tree by Ingrid Rojas Contreras
- 3. The House of Broken Angels by Luis Alberto Urrea
- 4. The Kite Runner* by Khaled Hosseini
- 5. *Patron Saints of Nothing* by Randy Ribay
- 6. Purple Hibiscus by Chimamanda Ngozi Adichie
- 7. *The Serpent King* by Jeff Zentner

* Indicates vetted, approved titles from the NISD English I-IV Approved Reading List

Summer Reading Assignment

- 1. Divide the novel into three chunks that are about the same in length (this does not have to be exact, just an estimate) for close analysis.
- 2. For each section, find a 1-2 page section that you feel is important. It could be because it contains a crucial scene of conflict, character development, resolution, ect.
- 3. Then, perform the following steps for each passage (an example is included below):
 - a. Summarize the passage in a couple of sentences.
 - b. Analyze 3-6 specific things from the passage (literary devices, symbols, actions, or anything else that seems important). In one to two sentences for each device, symbol, or action explain how that specific thing is important to the passage as a whole.

Assignment Example:

- 1. Pages 300-302
- 2. **Summary:** After not believing in Mama Day, George begins to feel the effects of the hate attacking Ophelia and reluctantly gives up and tries to go through with Mama Day's plan.

3. Analyze Statements:

- a. The stench in the chicken coop is significant because it creates a disgusting aura around the situation while also making the reader imagine they are there. It also relates back to the smell around Ophelia and the rotting hate from the page before.
- b. Hands are significant because both Mama Day and George value the work of their hands and Mama Day's plan has them working hand in hand and even though George realizes this he uses his own hands to make his own way of saving Ophelia.
- c. Killing the chickens is significant because it displays George doing it his way rather than Mama Day's way and foreshadowing him meeting the same fate.