

Advanced Placement English Literature and Composition
Summer Reading Assignment
Mr. Dulfon

Welcome to Advanced Placement English. Your selection for this class is evidence of your outstanding ability in this area, as well as your willingness to work hard and challenge yourself.

Since this is an Advanced Placement course, you can expect to be challenged throughout the year in the areas of reading and writing. It is assumed that you will be responsible enough to complete ALL assignments on time, to view works of literature from many different perspectives, to analyze and question where appropriate, and in general to develop and refine your own abilities in language, literature, and written expression.

This course considers great works of literature on a level designed to approximate a freshman college English course. To aid the development of thoughtful reading, and to ascertain your ability to work independently, you will be required to read two major works of literature this summer.

Please read both of these works with careful attention to characterization and theme. It is advisable for you to take notes as you read and to write down any questions or comments that you may have.

Since A.P. English will be a rapidly progressing course that aims to cover many major works, we cannot afford to waste any time getting started. Therefore, it is expected that you will be ready to discuss or write about both of these works on the first day of class.

The assigned works for the summer are:

Crime and Punishment (Fyodor Dostoevsky)

The Secret History (Donna Tartt)

- It is recommended that you read this first, since it mirrors the themes in the other work and should help you to better understand it.

Crime and Punishment Character Sheet

Helpful Hint:

Vitch = Son of

Ovna = Daughter of

So Rodion Romanovitch Raskolnikov =

Rodion Raskolnikov son of Romano Raskolnikov

1. Rodion Romanovitch Raskolnikov – the central character sometimes referred to as Rodya or Rodka but most often as Raskolnikov
2. Avdotya Romanovna Raskolnikov – Raskolnikov’s sister who is simply called Dounia
3. Pulcheria Alexandrovna Raskolnikov – Raskolnikov’s mother
4. Marmeladov – an alcoholic who meets Raskolnikov in a bar
5. Katerina Ivanovna – Marmeladov’s wife who has tuberculosis
6. Sonia – Marmeladov’s daughter who is a prostitute
7. Pyotr Petrovitch Luzhin – wealthy, middle-aged man who is engaged to marry Dounia. He is referred to as Luzhin.
8. Dmitri Prokofitch Razumihin – Raskolnikov’s loyal friend from the university. He is called Razumihin throughout the novel.
9. Arkady Ivanovitch Svidrigailov – Dounia’s former boss who tried to seduce her.
10. Marfa Petrovna – Svidrigailov’s wife who is rumored to have been killed by him. She read Dounia’s letter to the entire village.
11. Alyona Ivanovna – the pawn broker whom Raskolnikov kills
12. Lizaveta Ivanovna – the pawn broker’s half sister also killed by Raskolnikov
13. Porfiry Petrovitch – the brilliant, unconventional detective who becomes a formidable adversary to Raskolnikov.
14. Praskovya Pavlovna – Raskolnikov’s landlady who reports him to the police
15. Nastasya – the landlady’s servant
16. Ilya Petrovitch – a police officer
17. Zametov – a clerk at the police station
18. Nikodim Fomitich – Chief of Police
19. Zossimov – a doctor who treats Raskolnikov

- 20. Dmitri and Nikolay – painters who were working at the pawn broker’s apartment building on the day of the murders
- 21. Lebeziatnikov – the man who lives in the same building as the Marmeladov family. He later exposes Luzhin’s framing of Sonia.
- 22. Amalia Fyodorovna – Katerina Ivanovna’s landlady.

Summer Reading Literature Log

Title of book: _____ Author: _____

1. Describe the Point of View of the novel. Who is telling the story? Why do you think the author chose this type of narration for this type of story?

2. Analyze the characters. Begin with the Protagonist and Antagonist and then describe the minor characters. For each character, explain what their personality traits are, using evidence from the story to support your answers.

Protagonist -

Antagonist –

Minor Characters –

6. Personal Response. Discuss your overall opinion of this novel. Did you enjoy it? What did you like about it? Would you read more books by the same author, or on the same theme? Explain your response with details.

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Protagonist -

Antagonist -
