

“Literature, real literature, must not be gulped down like some potion which may be good for the heart or good for the brain — the brain, that stomach of the soul. Literature must be taken and broken to bits, pulled apart, squashed — then its lovely reek will be smelt in the hollow of the palm, it will be munched and rolled upon the tongue with relish; then, and only then, its rare flavor will be appreciated at its true worth and the broken and crushed parts will again come together in your mind and disclose the beauty of a unity to which you have contributed something of your own blood.”

Vladimir Nabokov, Lectures on Russian Literature

English 4AP Summer Activities 2015

Your interest in English 4AP indicates the following things:

- You love literature and feel that you are a uniquely talented "reader of" and "writer about" fiction, poetry and prose.
- You acknowledge the value inherent in the study of literature for its power to enrich your world view and are eager to engage wholeheartedly in such study.

Goals of the English 4AP course of study include:

- To further equip students with the skills and tools necessary to experience the power and beauty of literature.
- To further encourage students to interact with literature on a personal, intimate level.
- To provide students with experiences which afford them the opportunity to further strengthen their own intuitive and interpretive abilities.
- To offer students experiences that will enable them to perform well on the AP Literature and Composition Exam offered by the College Board, should they wish to take it.

Approach and complete the following reading assignment with these expectations and goals in mind.

- **Required Literary Works:** to be read over the summer. *Expect a high level of accountability for knowledge of these texts early in the year.*
 - “Oedipus the King” (Sophocles) [Penguin Classics *The Three Theban Plays*, trans. Robert Fagles]
 - *1984* (George Orwell) [Signet Classics edition]
 - *Pride and Prejudice* (Jane Austen) [any edition]
 - *Things Fall Apart* (Chinua Achebe) [any edition]
- **Miramonte Review:** you will have read most of these works in the past three years. If you have not, fill in any gaps you have; you will be expected to have an intimate knowledge of these works.
 - *The Lord of the Flies*
 - *The Odyssey (and related Greek and Roman mythology)*
 - *Romeo & Juliet*
 - *Fahrenheit 451*
 - *The Catcher in the Rye*
 - *Macbeth*
 - *Brave New World*
 - *Antigone*
 - *The Scarlet Letter*
 - *The Great Gatsby*
 - *One Flew Over the Cuckoo's Nest*
 - *East of Eden*