

AP Literature & Composition Summer Reading 2023-2024

Welcome to AP Literature & Composition! This is a college-level course in which we explore fictional literature through the ages. Please note that some of the texts we will explore this year, including the summer reading novels, depict mature or controversial topics appropriate to college-level discourse.

Required summer readings:

- *The Picture of Dorian Gray* by Oscar Wilde
- One of the following:
 - *The Nightingale* by Kristin Hannah
 - *Where the Crawdads Sing* by Delia Owens
 - *Slaughterhouse-Five* by Kurt Vonnegut

1) Read and annotate *The Picture of Dorian Gray*. Your annotations may be directly on the pages (if you own the book), on Post-its, in the notebook you plan to use in class in September, or on an electronic document (but do include the corresponding page numbers). Make note of anything you find interesting, confusing, or significant. Also make notes on the following themes and topics:

- Magical realism
- Standards of beauty
- Societal pressures
- Important symbols

2) For the book of your choice, complete the following, which will be submitted to Turnitin.com on **Monday, September 11**.

Author's Overall Purpose in Writing this Text	In a substantial paragraph, express your thoughts on the author's overall purpose. Use two to three properly cited quotes to support your opinion.
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Character Analysis	Choose three significant characters from the text. For each one, discuss their main personality traits and why they are significant to the work as a whole. For each character, use at least two quotes from the text to support your response.
Tone Analysis	<p>Choose one page of the text that stood out to you. In this page, what is the tone, and how does the author use stylistic choices to create this tone?</p> <p>This should be a one-page response with explicit links between stylistic choices and tone.</p>

Complete your reading, annotations, and own-choice responses by Monday, September 11, although it is recommended that you complete as much as possible before school begins.

On and after September 11, be prepared to:

- Participate in graded discussions about the texts
- Take a quotation-based quiz on *The Picture of Dorian Gray*
- Complete a timed in-class AP free response essay using evidence from the texts

If you have any questions, please e-mail Ms. Krannich at akrannich@mahwah.k12.nj.us