

Harding University High School  
International Baccalaureate English III  
SUMMER READING

During the summer, you will need to read three texts for your Advance Placement English IV class. You will need to read two texts from the *Mandatory Text* list and one from the *Free Choice Text*. You will have an assessment for the *Mandatory Texts* and an essay for *Free Choice Text*. Due Dates for the readings are listed below.

**Mandatory Texts**

Read the works of literature listed below.

The Book is available at your local bookstore or library.

- Brave New World, Aldous Huxley

**ASSESSMENT DATE:**

- **A Day—August 29<sup>th</sup>**
- **B Day—August 30<sup>th</sup>**

**Free Choice Text**

Choose one of the following novels or plays and complete the text.

- Midnight's Children, Salman Rushdie
- The Color Of Water, James McBride
- Go Tell It On The Mountain, James Baldwin
- Song of Solomon, Toni Morrison

After reading your free choice text, select of the following AP essay prompts to address. Responses should be typed, double-spaced, 12-point Times New Roman font. Responses should be 4-5 paragraphs.

**ESSAY DUE DATE:**

- **A Day—August 31<sup>st</sup>**
- **B Day—September 1<sup>st</sup>**

**All texts can be found at the public library.**

**Please choose one of the following Prompts to construct your essay on:**

1. In retrospect, the reader often discovers that the first chapter of a novel or the opening scene of a drama introduces some of the major themes of the work. Write an essay about the opening scene of a drama or the first chapter of a novel in which you explain how it functions this way.
2. An effective literary work does not merely stop or cease; it concludes. In the view of some critics, a work that does not provide the pleasure of significant “closure” has terminated with artistic fault. A satisfactory ending is not, however, always conclusive in every sense; significant closure may require the reader to abide with or adjust to ambiguity and uncertainty.

In an essay, discuss the ending of a novel or play of acknowledged literary merit. Explain precisely how and why the ending appropriately or inappropriately concludes the work. Do not merely summarize the plot.

3. Although literary critics have tended to praise the unique literary characterization, many authors have employed the stereotypical character successfully.

Select one work of acknowledged literary merit and, in a well-written essay, show how the conventional or stereotypical character or characters function to achieve the author's purpose.