

English 12 Advanced Placement Assignment 2009 – Mrs. Wendy Lewis

Advanced Placement English Literature and Composition is a college-level course in literary analysis and composition. The course involves intensive study of numerous authors, genres, and historical periods. Since you are enrolled in this course, I am assuming that you have a love of literature. You will have the opportunity to share your enthusiasm in seminar-style discussions. Due to the fact that AP exams are given in May and that we don't begin school until after Labor Day, it will be necessary for you to do some reading and writing over the summer break.

Required novels: These are both lengthy novels, but they are enjoyable and not difficult to read and will capture and keep your attention.

- ***The Grapes of Wrath*** (1939) by John Steinbeck
This is an American epic novel that is an accounting of the Dust Bowl Migration of the 1930's. It has been called "the most American of American classics."
- ***Jane Eyre*** (1847) by Charlotte Bronte
This is an eloquently told love story that is considered one of the best novels to come out of the Victorian Age in English literature. It is told from the point of view of Jane Eyre, who is one of the best-known female protagonists in literature.

I will have copies of these novels to check out for the summer, but I highly recommend that you purchase your own copies to earmark and highlight. You may see me in Room 210 after school up through exam week.

Writing assignment for each novel: (typed and due the first day of class)

- Select three to five passages of at least 8-10 lines each that you feel are significant to the text in some specific way.
- Copy these passages onto your paper (documenting correctly).
- In a detailed paragraph for each, explain why you find the passage to be important to the overall context of the novel.

Poetry assignment: "[The Groundhog](#)" by Richard Eberhart

Read the poem, which appeared on a past AP exam, several times and write the essay as it is described in the prompt. This essay will let me know what you already know about reading and analyzing poetry. You are not expected to make all the "right" points about the poem. I am looking for an honest attempt on your part to complete this task on your own.

Helpful hints: Keep your notes from other years of English, be prepared to participate in discussion each class, and get ready for a challenging year!

- **Turn in your written work on the first day of class, stapled to the back of this sheet.**
 - **Be prepared for quizzes on the novels.**
 - **Sign this pledge: I pledge that I have neither given nor received ANY outside help on these assignments.**
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