



# Summer Reading Assignments for Rising Twelfth Graders

**ALL assignments are due on the first day of school.**

If you have any questions regarding the Summer Reading assignments, please contact Mrs. Kim Vreeland at [kvreeland@academyatthelakes.org](mailto:kvreeland@academyatthelakes.org)

## English IV Honors

Please complete both assignments below.

### **Assignment #1: Summer Reading**

1. Choose one memoir from the list in the link below to read. Many of these memoirs have audiobooks read by the authors, so you are able to hear their voices and inflections. Feel free to pair the book with the audiobook. [Memoir List Summer 2023](#)
2. Throughout the memoir, highlight passages that evoke some emotion inside of you. These passages may inspire or frustrate you, make you laugh, cry, or question everything. They need to make you feel something.
3. Choose five of the passages you highlighted, and create a slideshow presentation of five visually-appealing, mind-blowing, student-engaging slides that will illustrate the emotions each passage evoked within you.

### **Assignment #2: Summer Writing**

Choose one of the following Common App essay prompts and write a well-organized response of at least 450 words. Your response should be in MLA format and printed for submission on the first full day of school.

1. Some students have a background, identity, interest, or talent that is so meaningful they believe their application would be incomplete without it. If this sounds like you, then please share your story.
2. The lessons we take from obstacles we encounter can be fundamental to later success. Recount a time when you faced a challenge, setback, or failure. How did it affect you, and what did you learn from the experience?
3. Reflect on a time when you questioned or challenged a belief or idea. What prompted your thinking? What was the outcome?
4. Reflect on something that someone has done for you that has made you happy or thankful in a surprising way. How has this gratitude affected or motivated you?
5. Discuss an accomplishment, event, or realization that sparked a period of personal growth and a new understanding of yourself or others.
6. Describe a topic, idea, or concept you find so engaging that it makes you lose all track of time. Why does it captivate you? What or who do you turn to when you want to learn more?
7. Share an essay on any topic of your choice. It can be one you've already written, one that responds to a different prompt, or one of your own design.

Please see the next page for AP Literature and Composition.



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## AP Literature and Composition

Described as the “King of Horror,” Stephen King (1947 - present) is an American author known for his supernatural fiction, suspense, crime, science-fiction, and fantasy novels. Some of his early novels are published under the pseudonym Richard Bachman.

### **Assignment #1:**

1. Choose one novel, written by Stephen King, that you have not read. You are permitted to choose one that has served as inspiration for a movie; however, you may not substitute watching the movie for reading the book. Follow this link for a list of King’s fiction.

### [Books by Stephen King](#)

2. An atmosphere of horror and a feeling of suspense are created by imagery and language. Horror feeds on the audience's deepest terrors by putting life’s most frightening and perplexing things—death, evil, supernatural powers or creatures, the afterlife, witchcraft—at the center of attention. Given this, as you read, highlight lines that create fear and dread in the reader. Be choosy; reserve your highlighting for the lines that make you shudder.

3. Choose one AP literature prompt that connects to your chosen work. As you read, mark up the text to prepare for an in-class essay. You will use your evidence to write the essay.

- Choose a complex and important character in a novel or a play of recognized literary merit who might on the basis of the character’s actions alone be considered evil or immoral. In a well-organized essay, explain both how and why the full presentation of the character in the work makes us react more sympathetically than we otherwise might. Avoid plot summary.
- In great literature, no scene of violence exists for its own sake. Choose a work of literary merit that confronts the reader or audience with a scene or scenes of violence. In a well-organized essay, explain how the scene or scenes contribute to the meaning of the complete work. Avoid plot summary.
- The most important themes in literature are sometimes developed in scenes in which a death or deaths take place. Choose a novel or play and write a well-organized essay in which you show how a specific death scene helps to illuminate the meaning of the work as a whole. Avoid mere plot summary.
- In literary works, cruelty often functions as a crucial motivation or a major social or political factor. Select a novel, play, or epic poem in which acts of cruelty are important to the theme. Then write a well-developed essay analyzing how cruelty functions in the work as a whole and what the cruelty reveals about the perpetrator and/or victim.
- Select a novel, play, or epic poem that features a character whose origins are unusual or mysterious. Then write an essay in which you analyze how these origins shape the character and that character’s relationships, and how the origins contribute to the meaning of the work as a whole.



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4. Design a pitch trailer for your chosen novel. Trailers are typically 2 - 3 minutes long with the goal of promoting your book. You have artistic license; however, most trailers have the following three parts or “acts.”

- Act I: reel in your audience and prime them for the vibe of the book; your first act should build anticipation
- Act II: showcase your characters and the setting of story and set up the central conflict of the film by illustrating the complications and obstacles the characters experience in their world
- Act III: generate excitement and end on a major cliffhanger, leaving the conflict unresolved.

A note about music:

Just like your book, understand that trailer music needs to be able to lead an audience through a variety of emotions in order to truly make an impact.

## Assignment #2:

Described as the “Queen of Mystery,” Agatha Christie (1890 - 1976) is a British novelist whose works have been outsold only by the Bible and Shakespeare. She is a best-selling author whose work has sold more than a billion copies and translated in more than 100 languages.

1. Read *And Then There Were None* by Agatha Christie. Make sure you read the book in its entirety; this includes the manuscript and the epilogue. I suggest this edition: [And Then There Were None by Agatha Christie](#)
2. Prepare notes that you will bring to class that answer the following questions. You will use your notes during a class discussion. Make sure you indicate page numbers in your notes as reference. Several examples for each question are appropriate. You might want to read the entire book first to have the benefit of hindsight.

*Essential question: How does Christie use literary elements to create suspense?*

- How does Christie divert the reader’s attention? ”A red herring swallowed one...”
- How does Christie foreshadow events to sustain suspense? ”Sign, sign, everywhere a sign.”
- How does Christie use flashback to characterize? Pardon my interruption.
- How does Christie use point of view to create suspense? Omniscience, friends?
- How does Christie create the mood through her setting(s)? Weather, anyone?
- How does Christie create tension? “I can feel it coming in the air tonight...”