**Advanced Placement Literature and Composition**

**Summer Reading**

Ms. Nelson (Room 1103)

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Dear Potential Advanced Placement student and parent,

Welcome to the Advanced Placement program. Your summer reading is an essential component to start the year right. The books listed below were selected as novels that will best prepare you for success in your AP class, as well as entertain you while reading.

Please read the following books over the summer:

*The Kite Runner* by Khaled Hosseini

*The Color Purple* by Alice Walker

1. **Create a Literary Terms Dictionary.** This must be placed in a 3 Ring Binder that you will bring to class the first day of school. We will be using this binder to organize all your materials for class in order to prepare you to study for the AP test. See the hand-out for directions. Possible websites:
   1. [**http:**//www.tnellen.com/cybereng/lit\_terms/](http://www.tnellen.com/cybereng/lit_terms/)
   2. <http://www.academic.brooklyn.cuny.edu/english/melani/lit_term.html>

Please don’t just cut and paste the definitions. Put them in your own words so you will understand their meanings. \*\***Make sure to leave space between each term for notes you’ll take in class.**

**2) Eight Responses on Goodreads.com.** You will be logging into *Goodreads.com* **8**

**times** this summer and posting or creating 8 entries by the first day of school.

**Directions for logging in:**

1. Log in to goodreads.com , create an account and join **“Nelson’s AP Lit and Comp”** group.
2. As you read throughout the summer, please respond to the **six** prompts. They will be found in folders labeled with the specific book titles.
3. You must also post **one** question or comment for the group **and** respond to a classmate’s question or comment. This could also include a “poll” you create or a quiz. Play around on the website-there’s lots of fun ideas!
4. This makes a total of **8** responses by the time school begins! Remember to respond to the prompts I give you-don’t just post 8 comments about the books.
5. **Post –it Notes:**

For each CHAPTER you must make **three** post it note comments. Below I have told you what to comment on and where to put the post-it.

1. Memorable Quote: (Bottom of page) Pick a quote and on your post it explain why it is important to one of the following:

Setting, Conflict, Theme or a Literary Device such as Simile, Metaphor,

Personification, Imagery, Symbolism, or Allusion (Try to apply each term

at least once)

1. Characterization: (Side of page) Jot down a note on something important we find out about a character. This could be motivation, personality trait, physical trait or inner thoughts or feelings. Make sure it is not plot summary.
2. Personal Reaction/Comment: (Top of Page) This is where you can write down your personal thoughts on a character, event, description or anything you feel yourself having an emotional reaction to.

**Summer Reading Grades:**

When you return in the fall I will check your Literary Terms Dictionary and post-its on the first day of class. You will also receive points for having your 3 Ring Binder. Your responses on Goodreads will also be graded the first week.

For the first three weeks we will be reviewing important literary devices and you will be given frequent quizzes on the summer reading. I realize that both of the summer reading texts can be easily obtained online and that you could complete the assignments without reading the book. But you will be given AP style quizzes/tests that will be impossible to complete unless you have actually read the texts. Please do not attempt to take an AP style test on a book you haven’t read-it will not go well.

FAILURE TO COMPLETE THE SUMMER READING WILL RESULT IN LOSS OF HONORS GRADE STATUS (one full grade below what might otherwise be your grade). The Saint Paul Public School District and College Board require students to have a well-read background in works of literary merit. This is the district’s way of supplementing the established curriculum.

If you have any questions, please email me at [melody.nelson@spps.org](mailto:melody.nelson@spps.org) or **mnelson.melody@gmail.com.** The handouts for the summer reading assignment will be available on the Johnson English Department Website this summer if you lose yours. You can also pick up copies in the guidance office at school.

Good Luck, and remember it’s never too early to start your summer reading!

Ms. Nelson-Room 1103