

Sunnyslope High School  
Advanced Placement (AP) Literature and Composition  
**Summer Assignment 2018**

*Dear AP Literature and Composition Students,*

*Congratulations on your decision to enroll in AP Literature and Composition! I am thrilled to be embarking on this new adventure with you – college-level literature and writing is thought provoking and exciting. I hope you too are looking forward to the exhilarating discussion, challenges, and rewards that this Advanced Placement course provides.*

*Please read closely all details regarding the required summer assignment. **Complete the final page** of this document to acknowledge your decision to take this AP course and fulfill the summer work requirement. Do not hesitate to visit me to discuss the class, its expectations, or details on the summer assignment itself.*

*Complete the following assignments this summer in order to be fully prepared for a strong start of your year in AP Literature and Composition. All parts of the assignment are **due on Tuesday, August 7<sup>th</sup>**. If you have any questions regarding the assignment, please contact me. I will be available intermittently throughout the summer via email, and I will respond as soon as I can. I look forward to getting to know you and exploring the beauty and complexity of literature together.*

*Sincerely,  
Mrs. Novak  
sheila.novak@guhsdaz.org*

## **Part 1: Reading of Complex Text – Annotating and Finding Excerpts for Analysis**

**Objective:** Closely read *The Great Gatsby* by F. Scott Fitzgerald, following the procedure for “First Read Annotation,” in order to prepare for the start of the year.

**Buy The Book** – the “real” book for “pencil on paper” annotating. Electronic readers and phones will not work for this type of reading. For our in-class, text-based discussions, it is best if we all have the same version of the book with the same page numbers. Therefore, please buy a book with one of the following ISBN numbers:

- **0-7432-7356-7**
- **0-7432-7356-5**
- **0-7432-7356-7**
- **1-4516-8943-3**

**First Read Annotation** – (You will be turning in your novels for **evaluation of your annotation work**.)

- **Comprehension:** At times, our AP texts take some work to achieve basic, literal comprehension.
  - Show your brainwork on the text by marking words, phrases, or sections that cause confusion. Do your **clarification work**, and make those notes in the text.
  - For comprehension purposes, and to prepare for a multiple choice comprehension test, at the **end of each chapter**, provide quick **summary notes in bullet form**.
  
- **What is Exciting:** Mark what strikes you most forcefully.
  - In the margin, write your first impressions and hunches, as well as anything you find surprising or confusing. Bracket, circle, underline (but do not highlight). And most importantly, write your thoughts in the margin. The **margin notes are required**. Make marks and comments in the

margin to **show your thinking** – anything goes at this point. The more you work (put your thinking) on the text, chances are, the more you are learning and remembering from the text.

- With an awareness that we will start the year with *Gatsby* and analysis, find and mark **pieces of text that you deem worthy of further study. There is nothing finer than the opportunity to choose. And choice of interesting text is the first step for us. Find at least 30:** mark each page with a **dog-ear or post-it note**, and mark the area of interest (sentence, phrase, or paragraph) **with a bracket**. Hopefully these will be interspersed throughout the novel.
- **Please see the model.**

## Part 2: AP Literary Language

**Objective:** Review and study the basic meanings of common **literary language** that we will use early in the year with *The Great Gatsby* and other prose pieces throughout the year. (We will add additional literary language as the year progresses.) The Quizlet list is located in the “Novak’s AP Literature” Class on Quizlet:

<https://quizlet.com/join/45KNdtPKC>

## Part 3: Personal Essay

**Objective:** Practice your skills and talents related to writing – creativity, clarity, vivid description, organization, honesty, insight, command of language and composition, etc. – to reveal yourself and your opinions about your life and the world you live in. (**I want to get to know you and your writing.**) Consider this assignment excellent practice for your college and scholarship application essays. As such, your essay should offer what those institutions are looking for:

- Answer **one** of the following questions in essay form.
  - Please include the prompt at the top of the page.
  - Practice what you know works well in writing.
  - These must be word-processed, double-spaced, using size 12 font, Times New Roman, with one-inch margins.
  - Be as expressive as you can be; this is personal writing – an opportunity for self-reflection, memories, and epiphanies.
  - Practice using a variety of sentence structures as well as precise and effective diction.
- Answer **one** of the following questions in essay form:
  1. Describe a significant childhood memory and discuss its impact on you. Reflect on what you learned from this experience and what you realize now because of it.
  2. Discuss one of your favorite quotes from a significant contributor to history or literature. Relate the quote to who you are, your experiences, and your world.
- **Using Turnitin:**

**Instructions:**

  1. Make sure you have access to your Turnitin account that you set up for your **GUHSD gmail address**.
  2. To join our AP Literature 18-19 Class, enter the following Class ID number: 18082023
  3. Use the enrollment key for the class: **ilovelit**
  4. Submit your essay to Turnitin any time on or before 8:00 a.m. Tuesday, August 7<sup>th</sup>.
  5. **Print a final copy of the essay to bring to class on August 7<sup>th</sup>.**

I look forward to getting to know you through your essay and working with you next school year – **your senior year!** Please, budget your time! Failure to complete any part of the summer assignment will negatively affect your grade and, most importantly, your ability to participate thoughtfully as we begin the course. I hope you will have an intellectually satisfying and safe summer!

## Model:

### First-Read Annotations:

- Clarification within showing annotation and summary points at end of chapters
- Text that is exciting, perplexing, and/or interesting in some way with annotation about why, how?

