

AP English 1409  
Summer Reading List 2018  
Calvert County Public Schools

**Requirement One:**

**Select and Read One Novel/Play**

- Select one novel or play from the list below. This text is your summer reading.
- Students are responsible for obtaining their own books. Copies are available online, in libraries, or for purchase.
- As you read, you must keep a journal. Directions for the journal appear in the REQUIREMENT TWO and THREE sections of this flyer.

*All the Pretty Horses* by Cormac McCarthy

*Arcadia* by Tom Stoppard

*The Awakening* by Kate Chopin

*Bel Canto* by Ann Patchett

*Beloved* by Toni Morrison

*Bring Up the Bodies* by Hilary Mantel

*The Color Purple* by Alice Walker

*Fifth Business* by Robertson Davies

*Jane Eyre* by Charlotte Bronte

*The Joy Luck Club* by Amy Tan

*Metamorphoses* by Mary Zimmerman (not the Franz Kafka text)

*Native Son* by Richard Wright

*1984* by George Orwell

*The Stranger* by Albert Camus

Steps to follow:

- Make your book selection.
- Get a journal.
- Start reading.
- Respond un your journal.
- Complete your journal to submit.

Requirements

- Read one novel or play over the summer. Keep a written journal.
- Turn in the journal the first week of class

## NOVELS and PLAYS

***All the Pretty Horses* by Cormac McCarthy** Follows 16-year-old John Grady Cole from his grandfather's ranch across the border into Mexico. There, Cole lives a cowboy life, breaks horses, falls in love with the daughter of his employer, and gets sucked into a violent encounter with the Mexican prison system. (Contains strong language and mature themes)

***Arcadia* by Tom Stoppard** Set in a palatial English estate and jumping between the present and the early 19th century, the mystery of a hermit who lived on the estate 200 years before unwinds in sequenced flashbacks. The play's central character is a little girl who happens to be a math genius. This play is very funny and filled with interesting conversations about unsolvable math problems and who slept with whom in the distant past. Satire, wit, and literary history are key components of this play.

***The Awakening* by Kate Chopin** First published in 1899, this novel so disturbed critics and the public that it was banished for decades. Now widely read and admired, *The Awakening* has been hailed as an early vision of woman's emancipation. This sensuous book tells of a woman's abandonment of her family, her seduction, and her awakening to desires and passions that threaten to consume her.

***Beloved* by Toni Morrison** Set in post-Civil War Ohio, this Pulitzer Prize-winning novel is a haunting chronicle of slavery and its aftermath. It traces the life of a young woman, Sethe, who has kept a terrible memory at bay only by shutting down part of her mind. *Beloved* is a dense, complex novel that yields up its secrets one by one.

***Bel Canto* by Ann Patchett** A fabulously wealthy businessman is given a birthday party by an unnamed South American country, at which a world famous opera singer is hired to perform. On page 2 of the novel, everyone at the party is taken hostage by terrorists. What ensues over the next days and weeks is a testament to the power of music to heal and transform. This beautiful, uplifting novel won all the awards and is one of the most widely read books of the past ten years.

***Bring Up the Bodies* by Hilary Mantel** This gripping historical novel reexamines the marriage of Henry VIII and his second wife Anne Boleyn through the eyes of Henry's lawyer, Thomas Cromwell, who views Anne as a shrewd and formidable opponent. Winner of the 2012 Man Booker Prize, the novel is darkly funny with vivid descriptions of 16th century England, including beheadings and marriage rituals. (Contains mature scenes)

***The Color Purple* by Alice Walker** A Pulitzer-Prize-winning feminist novel—praised for the depth of its female characters—that is a realistic account of an abused and uneducated black woman's struggle for empowerment. (Contains strong language and mature themes)

***Fifth Business* by Robertson Davies** Ramsay is a man who has returned from World War I decorated with the Victoria Cross and destined to be caught in a no man's land where memory, history, and myth collide. His apparently innocent involvement in such innocuous events as the throwing of a snowball or the teaching of card tricks to a small boy prove neither innocent nor innocuous.

***Jane Eyre* by Charlotte Bronte** A classic Gothic romance with windswept castles, mysteries, dark secrets, and passions—the story is about Jane, a poor, innocent orphan who becomes a governess and then loses her heart to hard, bitter, cynical Mr. Rochester.

***The Joy Luck Club* by Amy Tan** Chronicles the lives of four women raised in China and their four America-born daughters. Tan examines the sometimes painful, often tender, and always deep connection between mothers and daughters—moving and bittersweet.

***Metamorphoses* by Mary Zimmerman** This 2002 Tony Award-winning play is based on ten Greek myths retold by Roman poet Ovid. Set around a large pool of water, the stories are linked by the theme of transformative love. The play is funny and deeply moving. The New York Times said the production “has been reducing calloused New Yorkers to sobs.” (Contains mature themes and sexual situations)

***Native Son* by Richard Wright** The story of Bigger Thomas, a young black man caught in a downward spiral after he kills a young white woman in a brief moment of panic. Set in Chicago in the 1930s, the novel shows the poverty and feelings of hopelessness experienced by people in inner cities across the country and what it means to be black in America.

***1984* by George Orwell** The great modern classic where Big Brother is always watching you and the Thought Police can practically read your mind —Winston is in grave danger because his longing for truth and decency leads him to secretly rebel.

***The Stranger* by Albert Camus** A story of a French Algerian named Mersault who approaches life with an air of indifference. This does not change even when a strange set of circumstances turns him into a murderer. Mersault undergoes a profound period of clarity while on death row. This book is a classic of existential fiction which explores the nature of being human.

## Requirement Two: Keep A Journal (3 entries)

To accompany your reading, you must compose a journal with 3 entries. Keeping a journal will prepare you for the in-class writing assignment you will complete at the beginning of the first quarter. Use the following guidelines to earn full credit for your work. Please follow directions.

1. Journal essays should be typed and double spaced with a 12 point font. Staple the sheets together. Be sure each entry is marked clearly with your name and the title of the work.
2. We expect to see one journal essay that deals with your reading of the first few pages or chapters, a second essay that touches upon your reading during the text, and a final essay after the text is completed.
3. **Each essay should incorporate at least one direct quotation from your reading, with parenthetical citations that include the page number.**
4. Entries should not just summarize the text. Grades for the journal will be based on a logical development of your ideas in reaction to the text. Consider content, organization, and evidence of reading beyond the superficial as you frame your responses.
5. Each entry should be at least 500 words, double-spaced and paragraphed. Journal entries are due the first WEEK of class.
6. For example, an entry on the first few chapters/pages might analyze the feelings the text awakened in you, your surprise at the opening scene, or your response to the main character. During the reading you might examine emerging patterns or answer developing questions. At the end of the book you will analyze the ending, the appropriateness of the title, whether you enjoyed the book or not, whether any aspects of the book were confusing
7. Journal entries are meant to be your reflections of and personal responses to the works you have read. If you include plagiarized phrases/statements from critical analyses of these works, you will receive a zero on your assignment.

## Requirement Three: Attach a Works Cited Page, in MLA format, to the back of your three entries

1. Your Works Cited page will include a single entry, your novel or play in correct MLA format.
2. Use your NoodleTools account, MLA Advanced, which will format the information fed into the Wizard into the correct citation. If you cannot access NoodleTools, any accredited MLA citation site should format the entry correctly. Ebooks should also be formatted in MLA style
3. Use MLA style to mark the pages of your direct quotations. You do not need the author, just the page number, for example, (23) (132) (245).
4. A sample Works Cited page is reproduced for you below:

### Works Cited

Fitzgerald, F. Scott. *The Great Gatsby*. Scribner, 1953.

Shakespeare, William. *Much Ado About Nothing*. Washington Square Press, 1995.

## General Information

- The AP Literature and Composition examination is scheduled for Wednesday, May 8, 2019.
- This course is organized around this national test. Our expectation is that students taking the course will also take the test.
- To get more information about AP, use the internet at this address:  
[www.apcentral.collegeboard.com](http://www.apcentral.collegeboard.com)
- Most colleges nationwide offer incentives to students for performing well on AP exams. College policies for AP are not set by the College Board. Institutions do not follow the same, or even similar, procedures when they receive AP Exam grades. Check with your institutions to see what kind of reward they offer for qualifying grades: Placement and credit, either placement or credit only, housing or registration advancement, or other rewards for earning credit on the AP Literature exam. Sometime, you have to read the fine print to find college policies
- The College Board web site allows you to search for AP credit information by school.
- If you have questions over the summer, email AP Literature teacher Ms. White  
[whiter@calvertnet.k12.md.us](mailto:whiter@calvertnet.k12.md.us)

Read directions carefully. Check with your teacher if you have questions about what to do or how to do it