

# Summer Reading Assignments 2017-2018

St. Lucy's Priory High School

## English Department

Because there is a close association with reading and the development of vocabulary, comprehension, and writing skills, the English department will provide all students with a summer reading assignment. The assignments are designed to help students prepare for the upcoming school year, as well as review what they have learned. Students are responsible for completing the assignments and should be prepared for a reading comprehension test during the first few weeks of school.

All of the novels and plays may be purchased through *Amazon.com* or any other bookstore.

The textbook used in AP English Language class may be purchased through *Amazon.com*, *ESCO*, or purchased as a used book from another student.

## Junior class of 2019

### **American Literature: assignment for students enrolled in American Literature only.**

1. Read and annotate *Of Mice and Men* by John Steinbeck.
2. Be prepared for a test on this novel within the first two weeks of school.

Reference 'How to Annotate' directions included below

### **AP English Language and Composition: assignment for students enrolled in AP American Literature only.**

Students will need the following textbooks (available as a used book or through *Amazon.com*. May also be purchased through the school book service, *ESCO*, which opens later in the summer):

1. Prentice Hall Literature, *The American Experience, Timeless Voices, Timeless Themes*
2. *50 Essays: A Portable Anthology* by Samuel Cohen

Read and take notes on "Introduction for Students: Active Reading, Critical Thinking, and the Writing Process" (pp. 1-14) in *50 Essays*.

1. Read and annotate *The Crucible* by Arthur Miller in *The American Experience* (pp.1230-1335). Be certain to read the introduction to the play in the Prepare to Read section.
2. Answer the following study questions about the play in complete sentences: p. 1263 #1-7, p. 1264 #7-10, p. 1288 #1-5, p. 1316 #1-11, p. 1335 #1-4, #6

3. Recommended: Make a list of all characters with their descriptions.

There will be a multiple-choice quiz on *The Crucible* during the first week of school.

**Reference 'How to Annotate' directions included in this packet.**

## **A Guide to Annotating**

Annotating a novel or text improves a reader's comprehension by slowing down the reading. It promotes more active reading as readers become more aware of their own thinking, try to find connections, and make sense of ideas. In addition, annotating and active reading help to improve writing skills.

Plan on reading important passages more than once. The first time you read a passage, read for overall impressions and meaning. The second time, read more carefully while looking for more significant and detailed information.

### **How to annotate a novel or short story while reading:**

1. Using a highlighter, highlight key information: characters, setting, ideas and events.
2. Using a pencil, write notes in the margins to explain the highlighted information so that when you go back to it, you will know why you originally highlighted it.
3. At the end of the chapter, write a one-paragraph summary of the events in the chapter.
4. Define words that are new to you.
5. Offer an analysis or interpretation of what is happening in the text.
6. Explain the historical context or traditions/social customs that are used in the passage.
7. Point out and discuss literary techniques that the author is using, such as foreshadowing, allusion, alliteration, hyperbole, flashback, irony, metaphor, suspense, and personification.
8. Record/highlight important quotes.
9. Write any questions that you might have for later discussion in class.
10. Mark passages that you find unclear or confusing with a question mark.

Methods for writing in a text:

**Use brackets:** If several lines seem important, just draw a line down the margin and underline/highlight only the key phrases.

**Use asterisks:** Place an asterisk next to an important passage; use two if it is really important.

**Write notes in the margins:** Use the space in the margins to make comments, define words, ask questions, etc.

Underline/highlight: Do not underline or highlight too much! You want to concentrate on the important elements, not entire pages (use brackets for that).