

Honors English II Summer Reading
Assignment 1

The Tragedy of Julius Caesar: Students should read this play in its entirety. After reading, students should answer the following essay prompt::

1. After reading the play, generate an expository essay in which you explain how Shakespeare uses the idea of fate as a recurring theme throughout the play. Consider how fate affects the main characters, how they avoid omens which lead to fate, etc. You should cite evidence from the play.

Appropriate citation format

Helpful tool (<https://owl.english.purdue.edu/owl/resource/747/01/>)

Example of how to include evidence into your writing:

In Act I, scene II, Cassius states, "Men at some time are masters of their fates./ The fault, dear Brutus, is not in our stars, / But in ourselves, that we are underlings."

Or

Cassius states, "Men at some time are masters of their fates./ The fault, dear Brutus, is not in our stars, / But in ourselves, that we are underlings" (I. II. 146-48).

An online version of the play can be found here:

<http://www.folgerdigitaltexts.org/html/JC.html>

Assignment 2

Animal Farm by George Orwell

A printable version of this book can be found here:

<http://gutenberg.net.au/ebooks01/0100011h.html>

Or a novel can be purchased at any local bookstore or McKay's. **ALL STUDENTS MUST HAVE A COPY OF THIS BOOK in some form as it will be used within the first weeks of class.**

First, define or identify the following terms so that you will understand the novel:

Allegory, Capitalism, Communism, Propaganda, Totalitarianism, Joseph Stalin, Leon Trotsky, Karl Marx, Russian Revolution. You need to have enough information on your topics to have a general understanding as to why they are important for understanding

this novel. I would use note cards, typed-out notes (copy/pasting will not help you accurately learn the information), or hand-written notes. There will be a quiz on these terms when you return to class within the first two weeks.

Read *Animal Farm*. Then, complete the *practice AP test regarding the novel. You may use your book to help you, but you should complete the questions independently and without internet searches. I simply want to see what and how you understood the book.

All assignments will be taken up the first full day of school. No exceptions. (Aug. 9 for first semester, Jan. 8 for second semester.) Failure to turn in an assignment on time will result in a zero. We will cover *The Tragedy of Julius Caesar* first, and then we will move to *Animal Farm*, but all assignments will be collected at once. Students will not be able to turn in *Caesar* writings first and then *Animal Farm* materials.

The essay for *Julius Caesar* will be a 100 point writing grade and completion of the AP practice test will account for a 100 point test grade. Failure to do the definitions/identifications will result in a low quiz grade with no retake opportunity.

*The AP practice test cannot be put online. In order to get these questions, you will need to get them from guidance or the front office if you did not attend the Honors/AP night.