

**Gibbs High School**  
**Advanced Placement Literature and Composition**  
**Summer Reading 2020-2021**

**Instructors & Contact Information:**

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**Overview**

You will be reading **three (3) novels** for AP Lit & Comp: *Lord of the Flies*, *Brave New World*, and your choice of an AP-level novel from a provided list.

You are expected to

- 1) read and annotate all three novels,
- 2) write one (1) essay, and
- 3) complete one (1) Moments Journal.

You will share your essay with your specific instructor through Google Docs and provide us with a hard copy of your essay and your Moments Journal.

**Summer Reading Assignments Due Date: Friday, August 14, 2020**

**Course Expectations**

Because this is an AP course, you need to be aware of the rigorous, college-level curriculum and the expectations of effort. **The Summer Assignments are the foundations of the course, and the text selections will be the focus of our first few weeks.** Therefore, we ask that you take it seriously.

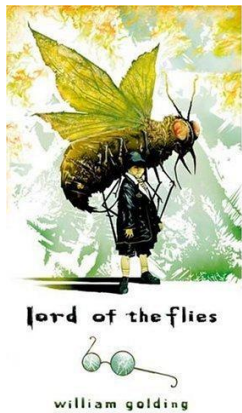
Advanced Literature & Composition (AP Lit & Comp) surveys a wide range of challenging works of literary merit in various genres. You will develop the skills necessary to comprehend and analyze these texts through discussion and composition. Students are expected to write constantly and deliberately. **By the end of the course, you should be well-prepared to tackle the complexity and intensity of the AP Lit & Comp Exam in May 2021.**

As an AP Lit & Comp student, you are expected to complete these Summer Reading assignments before the start of our class in August.

**No late summer assignments will be accepted.** There is no reason for an AP student to begin this course without the work. You are responsible for completing your work.

Most importantly, we expect you to complete your assignments independently. Do **NOT** use Cliff's Notes, Spark Notes, internet sites, movie versions, etc. because we want to know your thoughts and interactions regarding these novels rather than another scholar's criticism. Plagiarism will not be tolerated. You will be asked to sign a "Reading Pledge upon entering the classroom in the fall.

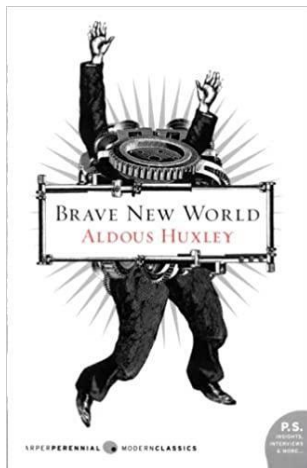
**Required Novels:** You will read and annotate both of these novels.



### ***Lord of the Flies* by William Golding**

William Golding's classic tale about a group of English schoolboys who are plane-wrecked on a deserted island is just as chilling and relevant today as when it was first published in 1954. By day they inhabit a land of bright fantastic birds and dark blue seas, but at night their dreams are haunted by the image of a terrifying beast. As the boys' delicate sense of order fades, their childish dreams are transformed into something more primitive, and their behaviour starts to take on a murderous, savage significance. First published in 1954, *Lord of the Flies* is one of the most celebrated and widely read of modern classics. Golding's gripping novel explores the boundary between human reason and animal instinct, all on the brutal playing field of adolescent competition. --*Jennifer Hubert* [Amazon.com.]

*Parental Advisory: This novel is presented as a microcosm of society and illustrates the potential pitfalls of mankind. The novel contains some violence and mild language.*

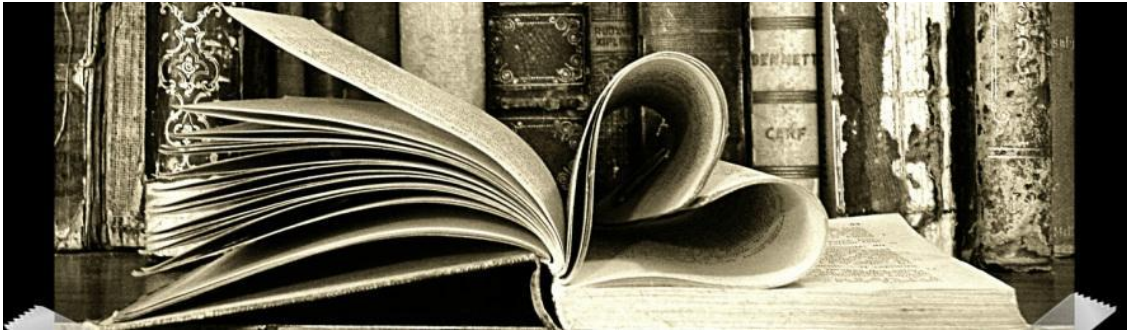


### ***Brave New World* by Adolphus Huxley**

Aldous Huxley's profoundly important classic of world literature, *Brave New World* is a searching vision of an unequal, technologically-advanced future where humans are genetically bred, socially indoctrinated, and pharmaceutically anesthetized to passively uphold an authoritarian ruling order whose motto is "Community, Identity, Stability."—all at the cost of our freedom, humanity, and perhaps our souls. "A genius [who] who spent his life decrying the onward march of the Machine" (*The New Yorker*), Huxley was a man of incomparable talents: equally an artist, a spiritual seeker, and one of history's keenest observers of human nature and civilization. *Brave New World*, his masterpiece, has enthralled and terrified millions of readers, and retains

its urgent relevance to this day as both a warning as we head into tomorrow and as a thought-provoking, satisfying work of literature. Written in the shadow of the rise of fascism during the 1930s, *Brave New World* likewise speaks to a twenty-first-century world dominated by mass-entertainment, technology, medicine and pharmaceuticals, the arts of persuasion, and the hidden influence of elites. *Brave New World* is "one of the most prophetic dystopian works of the 20th century" that must be read and understood by anyone concerned with preserving the human spirit in the face of our "brave new world." -- *Wall Street Journal*. [Review from Amazon.com]

*Parental Advisory: Novel portrays a society characterized by government-advocated drug use and promiscuity. However, these are portrayed as destructive to society. It is a cautionary tale, not a prescription for advancement.*



### 3<sup>rd</sup> Required Novel - AP Choice Title List

As you consider which one (1) novel you want to read, we strongly encourage you to conduct a Google/GoodReads search for a summary of each one and make a choice based on those findings. Maybe you prefer something short or something easy. Maybe your selection will be based on what you find interesting or intriguing. It does not matter in the least to us which novel you choose. **There is no written assignment with the third novel.** However, you will be expected to present your selection during the first week of class and you may be required to write an in-class essay in response to an AP Exam Question 3 prompt. You would do well to thoroughly understand your AP Choice Title in whatever manner works best for you: annotating the text, taking notes, etc.

#### ***As I Lay Dying* by William Faulkner**

*As I Lay Dying* is Faulkner's harrowing account of the Bundren family's odyssey across the Mississippi countryside to bury Addie, their wife and mother. Narrated in turn by each of the family members—including Addie herself—as well as others the novel ranges in mood, from dark comedy to the deepest pathos. Considered one of the most influential novels in American fiction in structure, style, and drama, *As I Lay Dying* is a true 20th-century classic. [Amazon.com]

#### ***Beloved* by Toni Morrison**

Staring unflinchingly into the abyss of slavery, this spellbinding novel transforms history into a story as powerful as Exodus and as intimate as a lullaby. Sethe, its protagonist, was born a slave and escaped to Ohio, but eighteen years later she is still not free. She has too many memories of Sweet Home, the beautiful farm where so many hideous things happened. And Sethe's new home is haunted by the ghost of her baby, who died nameless and whose tombstone is engraved with a single word: Beloved. Filled with bitter poetry and suspense as taut as a rope, *Beloved* is a towering achievement. "You can't go wrong by reading or re-reading the collected works of Toni Morrison. *Beloved*, *Song of Solomon*, *The Bluest Eye*, *Sula*, everything else — they're transcendent, all of them. You'll be glad you read them."--Barack Obama. [Amazon.com]

#### ***Crime and Punishment* by Fyodor Dostoyevsky**

*Crime and Punishment* is the story of a brutal double murder and its aftermath. Raskolnikov, a poor student, kills a pawnbroker and her sister, and then has to face up to the moral consequences of his actions. It was first published in the literary journal, *The Russian Messenger*, in twelve monthly installments during 1866. It was later published in a single volume. The novel focuses on the mental anguish and moral dilemmas of its main character. It is compelling and rewarding, full of meaning and symbolism, and raises profound questions about the individual and society, and the nature of free will. [Amazon.com, et al.]

### ***Dracula* by Bram Stoker**

*Dracula* is an 1897 Gothic horror novel by Irish author Bram Stoker. Famous for introducing the character of the vampire Count Dracula, the novel tells the story of Dracula's attempt to move from Transylvania to England so he may find new blood and spread undead curse, and the battle between Dracula and a small group of men and women led by Professor Abraham Van Helsing. *Dracula* has been assigned to many literary genres including vampire literature, horror fiction, the gothic novel and invasion literature. The novel touches on themes such as the role of women in Victorian culture, sexual conventions, immigration, colonialism, and post-colonialism. Although Stoker did not invent the vampire, he defined its modern form, and the novel has spawned numerous theatrical, film and television interpretations. (Amazon.com)

### ***Great Expectations* by Charles Dickens**

*Great Expectations* is Charles Dickens's thirteenth novel and his penultimate (completed) novel; a bildungsroman which depicts the personal growth and personal development of an orphan nicknamed Pip. The novel was first published as a serial in Dickens's weekly periodical *All the Year Round*, from 1 December 1860 to August 1861. It is set among marshes in Kent, and in London, in the early to mid-1800s, and contains some of Dickens' most memorable scenes, including the opening, in a graveyard, where the young Pip is accosted by the escaped convict, Abel Magwitch. *Great Expectations* is full of extreme imagery – poverty; prison ships and chains, and fights to the death – and has a colourful cast of characters who have entered popular culture. These include the eccentric Miss Havisham, the cold and beautiful Estella, and Joe, the kind and generous blacksmith. *Great Expectations* is popular both with readers and literary critics. George Bernard Shaw praised the novel, as "All of one piece and consistently truthful." Dickens felt *Great Expectations* was his best work, calling it "a very fine, new and grotesque idea". [Amazon.com]

### ***Invisible Man* by Ralph Ellison**

*Invisible Man* was selected by the Modern Library as one of the 100 best novels of all time and nominated as one of America's best-loved novels by PBS's *The Great American Read*. It is a milestone in American literature that has continued to engage readers since its appearance in 1952. A first novel by an unknown writer, it remained on the bestseller list for sixteen weeks, won the National Book Award for fiction, and established Ralph Ellison as one of the key writers of the century. The nameless narrator of the novel describes growing up in a black community in the South, attending a Negro college from which he is expelled, moving to New York and becoming the chief spokesman of the Harlem branch of "the Brotherhood," and retreating amid violence and confusion to the basement lair of the Invisible Man he imagines himself to be. The book is a passionate and witty tour de force of style. [Amazon.com]

### ***Jane Eyre* by Charlotte Bronte**

*Jane Eyre* follows the emotions and experiences of its title character, including her growth to adulthood, and her love for Mr. Rochester, the Byronic master of fictitious Thornfield Hall. The novel contains elements of social criticism, with a strong sense of morality at its core, but is nonetheless a novel many consider ahead of its time given the individualistic character of Jane and the novel's exploration of classism, sexuality, religion, and feminism. (Amazon.com)

### ***The Sun Also Rises* by Ernest Hemingway**

*The Sun Also Rises* is a classic example of Hemingway's spare but powerful writing style. A poignant look at the disillusionment and angst of the post-World War I generation, the novel introduces two of Hemingway's most unforgettable characters: Jake Barnes and Lady Brett Ashley. The story follows the flamboyant Brett and the hapless Jake as they journey from the wild nightlife of 1920s Paris to the brutal bullfighting rings of Spain with a motley group of expatriates. It is an age of moral bankruptcy, spiritual dissolution, unrealized love, and vanishing illusions. First published in 1926, *The Sun Also Rises* is "an absorbing, beautifully and tenderly absurd, heartbreaking narrative...a truly gripping story, told in lean, hard, athletic prose" -- *The New York Times*. [Amazon.com]



## **Summer Reading Written Assignment #1**

**Due Date: Friday, August 14, 2020**

### **Assignment #1 – Composition**

Write a well-constructed essay on **either** *Lord of the Flies* or *Brave New World* based on one (1) of the prompts listed below. Be sure to submit an essay that meets the expectations of an AP class. You must include textual evidence (which should be cited correctly) as well as a Works Cited page. Your essay must be typed, double-spaced, and follow MLA Guidelines for structure and incorporating quotes. **You will share your essay with your specific instructor via Google docs by 8:30 am on Friday, August 14, 2020 AND submit the hard copy to your specific instructor in class.**

**Please note that whichever novel you choose for this essay, you will choose the other novel for the Moments Journal.**

### **Lord of the Flies – Essay Prompt**

Golding decided to write this masterpiece because he wanted to portray how evil human nature is. After serving in the British Navy during World War II, Golding was terrified by what he had seen in humans who had the capacity to harm their fellow species. He became convinced that, at the core, man's human nature was menacing and full of savagery. In this novel, he scrutinizes man's true struggle between good and evil.

Lord of the Flies – Essay Prompt (continued)

**Option A:** The novel’s setting is often important in terms of helping to develop the themes of a novel. As you read, make note of 5-6 adjectives which describe the setting, choosing at least one quote to substantiate the significance of each descriptor (i.e. text evidence to support the adjective). Then, using some or all of your adjectives, write an essay analyzing how the setting plays a significant role in promoting the theme of the novel. Be sure to incorporate the text evidence you selected and follow MLA guidelines for citing quotes!

**Option B:** It has often been said that what we value can be determined only by what we sacrifice. Consider how this statement applies to the characters in *Lord of the Flies*. Then, select a character who has deliberately sacrificed, surrendered, or forfeited something in a way that highlights that character’s values. Analyze how the particular sacrifice illuminates the character’s values and provides a deeper understanding of the meaning of the work as a whole. Again, use quotes from the text to support your choice and follow all MLA guidelines for citing quotes!

Brave New World – Essay Prompt

Huxley’s work is a utopian novel, but the “ideal society” it portrays is one few readers would consider ideal. Many have interpreted the novel as a cautionary tale – as much a warning of what to avoid as a vision of what might be. The novel was written in 1932 amid the throes of a global depression and the rise to power in Germany of a charismatic politician named Adolf Hitler.

**Option A:** Explain how the society portrayed in the novel fosters community, identity, and stability among its population. Cite specific examples from the text and use evidence to support your claim (s).

**Option B:** In most works of literature, the reader has no trouble discerning the main character. In others, no character stands out as the protagonist. Which scenario holds true for *Brave New World*? If you choose this option, do ONE of the following:

1. If there is a clear protagonist and antagonist, identify them, and explain how these characters meet the definitions (of protagonist and antagonist)
- OR**
2. If you see no clear protagonist/antagonist, make the **lack** of clearly identifiable protagonist and antagonist the focus of your essay. Explain why you think Huxley made this choice, and what this choice adds to the narrative and the overall theme.



## Summer Reading Written Assignment #2

### Due Date: Friday, August 14, 2020

#### Assignment #2 – Moments Journal

For either *Lord of the Flies* or *Brave New World*, record ten (10) of your favorite “moments” on the attached sheet, paying close attention to what is happening in this “moment” and how it can be related to a theme in the novel. For full credit, be sure to fill in all three of the columns to be thorough in your explanations. NOTE: You can do this as you read or when you have finished the novel. The Moments Journal is attached at the end of this packet.

This is a moment-driven task, not a request for a summary. A “moment” is an event, a happening, a turning point in the story, and/or an instance of meaningful dialogue between one character and another. Again, you are not being asked to summarize a chapter or a passage; you are being asked to recall a moment of significance to you.

Here is an example from *To Kill a Mockingbird*.

**Incorrect Explanation:** Because Atticus Finch defends Tom Robinson, the people of Maycomb respect him. Atticus is a courageous character.

**Correct Explanation:** After the jury returns the guilty verdict and the citizens have left the courtroom, those seated in the balcony remain quiet and stand as Atticus walks out. The moment, observed by Scout and Jem as well, reveals the character of Atticus as a courageous and well-respected man who has won the admiration of the African-American community of Maycomb.

Notice how the second explanation establishes the context, includes characters, and makes a connection to a theme in the novel. This is what you are expected to do with your moments.

A list of suggested topics for the creation of themes is shown below. Use them if you need them. You may use some or all of the ideas on these lists or none at all. Do not use the same theme more than three (3) times. **Remember that a theme is a statement, not a topic.**

#### *Lord of the Flies*

- Power
- Civilization
- Innocence
- Fear
- Wisdom and Knowledge
- Youth
- Identity

#### *Brave New World*

- Science
- Power
- Freedom
- Isolation
- Society and Class
- Identity
- Spirituality

**Please note that whichever novel you chose for your essay, you will choose the other novel for this assignment.**



### **Mandatory Contact**

With the closure of school due to the COVID-19 pandemic this spring, we were unable to host a face-to-face meeting with you. Therefore, Mrs. Braeuner and Mrs. Williams are requiring all AP Lit students to send an email stating receipt of this Summer packet and providing contact information. Please send your email to both instructors by **midnight on Friday, June 5, 2020**.

### **Bonus Opportunity!**

There is one (1) optional “assignment” that you can complete over the summer if you wish.

The *New York Times* hosts a Summer Reading Contest every year. Use the link below for more information. If you are interested in participating, you will need to include this in your email to Mrs. Braeuner and Mrs. Williams and further instructions will be given to you. Your request must be on record with either Mrs. Braeuner or Mrs. Williams to gain credit.

<https://www.nytimes.com/2019/08/21/learning/the-11th-annual-new-york-times-summer-reading-contest.html>

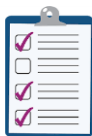
### **Last Notes**

We have attached an Annotation Guide from AP Central that will help you with your annotations and a Checklist to help keep you organized! Please know that we sincerely want you to be successful in the AP Lit classroom. Do not hesitate to reach out to us if you have any questions, need clarification, or simply want to talk out expectations.

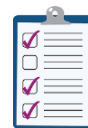


**We are super excited to see you in the AP Lit classroom!!**





## ASSIGNMENT CHECKLIST (for your convenience):



### Preliminary Tasks:

- Read AP Annotation Guide
- Read AND Annotate *Lord of the Flies*
- Read AND Annotate *Brave New World*
- Contact Mrs. Braeuner and Mrs, Williams via email

### Written Work:

#### Assignment #1: Composition

Write an essay on EITHER *Lord of the Flies* OR *Brave New World* (you must read both) using the prompts provided. **Share your essay with your specific instructor via Google docs by 8:30 am on Friday, August 14, 2020 AND submit the hard copy to your specific instructor in class.**

#### My Novel Selection for the Essay:

- |   |                      |          |
|---|----------------------|----------|
| <input type="checkbox"/> <i>Lord of the Flies</i> | Circle One: Option A | Option B |
| <input type="checkbox"/> <i>Brave New World</i>   | Circle One: Option A | Option B |

#### Assignment #2: “Moments” Journal

For EITHER *Lord of the Flies* or *Brave New World*, record ten (10) of your favorite “moments” on the attached sheet, paying close attention to what is happening in this “moment” and how it can be related to a theme in the novel. NOTE: You can do this as you read or when you have finished the novel. **A hard copy is due in class on Friday, August 14, 2020.**

#### My Novel Selection for the “Moments” Journal:

- Lord of the Flies*
- Brave New World*

#### Assignment #3: Your Choice of AP Lit Novel

- Read an AP Choice Novel (See guidelines for options)

**There is no written assignment with the third novel.** However, you will be expected to present your selection during the first week of class and you may be required to write an in-class essay in response to an AP Exam Question 3 prompt.

## NOTES ABOUT ANNOTATION (from the AP Central Website)

### Why Annotate?

- Annotate any text that you must know well, in detail, and from which you might need to produce evidence that supports your knowledge or reading, such as a book on which you will be tested.
- Don't assume that you must annotate when you read for pleasure; if you're relaxing with a book, well, relax. Still, some people - let's call them "not-abnormal" - actually annotate for pleasure.

Don't annotate other people's property, which is almost always selfish, often destructive, rude, and possibly illegal. For a book that doesn't belong to you, use adhesive notes for your comments, removing them before you return the text.

Don't annotate your own book if it has intrinsic value as an art object or a rarity. Consider doing what teachers do: *buy an inexpensive copy of the text for class.*

### Tools: Highlighter, Pencil, and Your Own Text

1. **Yellow Highlighter:** A yellow highlighter allows you to mark exactly what you feel is necessary. Equally important, the yellow line emphasizes without interfering. Highlights in blue and pink and fluorescent colors are even more distracting. The idea is to see the important text more clearly, not give your eyes a psychedelic exercise.

While you read, highlight whatever seems to be key information. At first, you will probably highlight too little or too much; with experience, you will choose more effectively which material to highlight.

2. **Pencil:** A pencil is better than a pen because you can make changes. Even geniuses make mistakes, temporary comments, and incomplete notes.

While you read, use marginalia - marginal notes - to make key material. Marginalia can include check marks, question marks, stars, arrows, brackets, and written words and phrases. Create your own system for marking what is important, interesting, quotable, questionable, and so forth.

3. **Your Text:** Inside the front cover of your book, keep an orderly, legible list of "key information" with page references. Key information in a novel might include themes; passages that relate to the book's title; characters' names' salient quotes; important scenes, passages, and chapters; and maybe key definitions or vocabulary. Remember that key information will vary according to genre and the reader's purpose, so make your own good plan.

As you read, section by section, paragraph by paragraph, **consider doing the following, if useful or necessary:**

- At the end of each chapter or section, **briefly** summarize the material.
- Title each chapter or section as soon as you finish it, especially if the text does not provide headings for chapters or sections.
- Make a list of vocabulary words on a back page or the inside back cover. Possible ideas for lists include the author's special jargon and new, unknown, or otherwise interesting words.
- Note important plot happenings.
- Note supporting details or textual evidence to support a conclusion you are drawing.
- Note the writer's craft to create effect, such as figurative language, imagery, characterization, etc.

Regardless of your method. annotating your text will allow you the greatest success in the AP Lit classroom!!

Name \_\_\_\_\_

AP Title and Author \_\_\_\_\_

| <b>Fully Explained Moment and Significance</b> (include any information needed to make sense of your thematic connection) | <b>Chapter and Page(s)</b> | <b>Thematic Connection</b> |
|---|----------------------------|----------------------------|
| 1   |                            |                            |
| 2   |                            |                            |
| 3   |                            |                            |
| 4   |                            |                            |
| 5   |                            |                            |
| 6   |                            |                            |

Name \_\_\_\_\_

AP Title and Author \_\_\_\_\_

| Fully Explained Moment and Significance (include any information needed to make sense of your thematic connection) | Chapter and Page(s) | Thematic Connection |
|--|---------------------|---------------------|
| 7  |                     |                     |
| 8  |                     |                     |
| 9  |                     |                     |
| 10   |                     |                     |
|  |                     |                     |
|  |                     |                     |

\* Attach notebook paper or type up your own version of the Moments Journal if this chart does not provide enough space. \*