

AP: Independent Reading (revised)

In order to expand your knowledge of literature, you will be reading a variety of books independently. You will choose from a long list of AP-approved texts. Because these texts are classics, reading them will not only prepare you for the AP Literature exam—it will also enrich your life.

You are required to read a total of **FOUR** texts independently during the school year—one book per quarter. Your selection must be approved by the teacher. You will be provided reading lists. Many of the titles are available as PDFs. There are summaries on the class website to help narrow down your choices

For each of your chosen texts, you are required to do the following:

1. Accelerated Reader Quiz: At the end of each quarter, you must take a quiz to prove that you have read the book.
2. Dialectical Journal: Keep a dialectical journal with at least 25 entries. Refer to the class website for information on how to create a dialectical journal.
3. Create a poster advertising your book
 - a. Include the title and author
 - b. Include a quote
 - c. Illustrate at least one of the characters
 - d. Give an idea of the mood, tone of the book through your design
 - e. Use the large A3 sized paper
 - f. You may design this by hand or on the computer
4. Create a note card: You will complete one card per major literary work and put them in your classroom folder. These cards are a quick study guide for the AP exam. A template is provided on the back of this paper.
5. Book Talk: You will be required to give a book for each quarter. Sign up ahead of time.
 - a. You will present your book to the class in a FIVE minute presentation
 - b. Create a poster that entices others to read your book—NO SPOILERS
 - c. Include an interesting quotation from the book to capture your audience's attention.
 - d. State the title of the book and the author's name at the beginning of your Book Talk.
 - e. Discuss the plot and conflict, setting, major characters, and a theme. Do not give away too much of the story!! NEVER tell the ending!
 - f. Do not just list characters—remember this Book Talk is essentially a persuasive speech—you are convincing your audience to read the book.
 - g. You may become a character in the book.
 - h. Have the book with you to use as a visual, or use PowerPoint or Prezi if you would like.
 - i. If you use any video with your presentation, it will not be included in your three-minute time expectation.
 - j. Work on appropriate presentation skills: make eye contact, do not read your speech, use body language to communicate your message, speak loudly and clearly, etc.
 - k. Feel free to use different voices or wear a costume. Have fun!

NOTE CARD TEMPLATE

FRONT OF CARD
Full Title/Author Full Name/Time Period Written
SETTING (Time & Place)--note if setting changes/why
PRECIS (summary, 75 words max)
MAJOR CHARACTERS—identify/describe, relationship(s), purpose (i.e. foil, archetype, protagonist, antagonist, etc.)
MINOR CHARACTERS OF SIGNIFICANCE—same information as Major Characters (some essay questions focus on minor characters!)
BACK OF CARD
SIGNIFICANT SYMBOLS/MOTIFS—list, explain significance, connotations, etc. NOTE: You must include references for BOTH symbol AND motif!
THEME(S)—Note any prominent contextual, universal, and/or archetypal themes; then write a thesis statement that addresses ONE of your listed themes.
SIGNIFICANT QUOTATION(S): Choose at least one—COPY CORRECTLY and provide correct parenthetical citation. Explain quotation's context and significance (speaker, situation, etc.)
UNIQUE STYLISTIC & LITERARY ELEMENTS—i.e. drama--key elements; or stylistic devices, such as irony, flashback, framing story, etc.; briefly explain how each contributes to the greater understanding of the work itself.