
Advanced Placement English/ECE 1011 Summer Reading Assignment for 2016 - 2017

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I. Read one of the titles listed under “Choice Novel” at the bottom of this page. These are all works by women authors from a broad range of times and places. Follow Mortimer Adler’s suggestions in his essay, “How to Mark a Book.” Complete the written assignment and have it ready to hand in on the first day of classes in the fall. I may have copies of some of these books which I will make available to you.

II. Read *All the King’s Men* by Robert Penn Warren. Again, follow Adler’s suggestions on “marking a book” and look for these themes: individual responsibility, power and politics, human nature, the ongoing influence of the past, the search for truth, the nature of reality, religion, identity, innocence, issues of free will, chance, or fate, and the meaning or purpose of life. It is important to keep careful note of specific page numbers of the quotes you find. Use the **Harcourt Brace/Harvest Book** edition (ISBN number 0-15-6000480-1).

Although the novel is long and complex, most readers find the pulsating rhythm of Penn Warren’s style mesmerizing. In fact, due to the style, **the book has to be read in large blocks**, not piecemeal; you need to become totally absorbed in the world of Jack Burden, Willie Stark, and the rest. So sink in and buckle up. You’re in for one roller coaster of a literary ride. I hope you enjoy it.

III. Read *Crime and Punishment* by Fyodor Dostoevsky. You should purchase this from me for \$4.00. Having the same edition will facilitate discussion. The first few weeks of the course will be devoted to an intensive study of this work, along with articles on Russian nihilism and the philosophy of Nietzsche.

Crime and Punishment is a psychological novel which most students find absorbing. It is not only a classic of world literature, but also a frequent option on the essay portion of the AP exam. Again, use Adler’s method for taking notes on this novel. The unit, which moves quickly, will culminate in a five-page paper and an essay test. We’ll then go right into *All the King’s Men* while it’s fresh in your mind.

The Third (choice) novel

These particular books have been chosen for their potential usefulness on the AP exam and for their relevance to the core texts of the AP curriculum.

Isabelle Allende (Chilean-American): *The House of the Spirits*
Margaret Atwood (Canadian): *The Handmaid’s Tale*
Charlotte Bronte (English) *Jane Eyre*
Joyce Carol Oates (American): *Foxfire*
Edith Wharton (American): *The House of Mirth*
Tsitsi Dangarembga (Zimbabwean): *Nervous Conditions*
George Eliot (British): *The Mill on the Floss*
Willa Cather (American): *My Antonia*
Zora Neale Hurston (African-American): *Their Eyes Were Watching God*
Eileen Chang (Chinese): *Rice Sprout Song* or *Rouge of the North*
Marilynne Robinson (American) *Housekeeping*

AP/ECE ENGLISH SUMMER VOCABULARY

Because research suggests that the most critical factor in reading comprehension is vocabulary, you are required to memorize definitions for about ten words a week this summer. While many of these words may be new to you, some should sound familiar; all appear in college-level reading and on the SAT's. Furthermore, as you advance in your academic career, vocabulary will increasingly separate the excellent papers from the good. Since most of these words come from Crime and Punishment, the definitions will be reinforced when you read the novel. While this assignment may seem a bit arduous, you will benefit in the long run.

The first quiz will be on the **first Friday** of the school year. Words will be chosen at random from the entire list.

Group 1

prevaricate	disconcert
mendacious (mendacity)	manifest (manifestation)
veracious (veracity)	admonish
proximity	innate
preponderance	

Group 2

stolid	ignominious (ignominy)
expiate	fetter
revile	morose
propensity	lugubrious
emaciated	lachrymose

Group 3

icon	deference
iconoclast	effusive
propound	charlatan
awry	repugnant
trepidation	odious

Group 4

capricious	homage
conjecture	implore
supercilious	entreat
lethargic	imperious
listless	peremptory

Group 5

diffidence (diffident)	edify
sagacious (sage)	retort
calumny	harangue
pecuniary	tirade
dissemble	feign

Group 6

truculent	castigate
ethereal	upbraid
depravity (depraved)	reprove

punctilious
ephemeral

transient
immutable

Group 7

noisome
mettle
nemesis
plaintive
reproach

incongruous
exacerbate
abate
mitigate
iniquitous (iniquity)

Group 8

enigmatic
sedentary
felicitous
timorous
incensed

novice
acquiesce
irrevocable
paroxysm
tacit

Group 9

blaspheme (blasphemous)
pernicious
magnanimous
efface
expunge

ardor (ardent)
fervor (fervent)
exhort
aberration
obsequious