

1. *Siddhartha*, by Herman Hesse (Bantam Edition), an absorbing novel about a young man's search for self-knowledge
2. *The Woman Warrior*, by Maxine Hong Kingston (Vintage Edition), an intense story of a young woman who wrestles with her Chinese identity and values in the context of America

Since the first two weeks of the course will be devoted to a comparative study of *Siddhartha* and *The Woman Warrior*, it is important that you read both works carefully, preferably in August. DUE ON THE FIRST DAY OF CLASS are dialectical notes (two columns, quotations in one column, responses in the other) of thought-provoking quotations (cited by chapter and page number) and your commentary on each. Your log will be collected. **Record observations on characters, theme, symbolism, imagery, parallels and contrasts with other works, as well as personal reflections.** A paper will be required at the end of the unit.

For purposes of reference during discussion, it is important that we all use the same editions. Copies can be borrowed from me (Ms. Greco) in D25; there may not be enough copies for everyone, but these editions are available in area book stores and certainly on Amazon.

Vocabulary Study

Getting started on vocabulary study this summer will not only increase your reading comprehension but will give you a head start on SAT preparation for the fall. You are required to learn the definitions of the attached list of words. Many of the words come from Charles Dickens' *A Tale of Two Cities* which we will read first semester. **There will be a vocabulary quiz the first week of school.**

A suggested text for vocabulary study is:

Brownstein, Samuel, Mitchel Weiner, and Sharon Weiner Green. *Basic Word List*. Hauppauge, NY: Barron's, 1997, recent edition.

This text is available at many area book stores as well as from both amazon.com and barnesandnoble.com. The book is inexpensive, the definitions are clear, and it contains an example of each word used in a sentence. (I do have some copies in D25 that may be borrowed). It will facilitate your vocabulary study throughout the year. However, a good dictionary will serve as well.

Honors English 12 Summer Vocabulary

You may find it helpful to divide the words into groups of five, learning the definition of one group per week which should be painless!

incredulity
tremulous
inscrutable
prevaricate
implacable

retinue
expeditious
pecuniary
modicum
incumbent

capitulate
inexorable
supplicate
gaunt
vindictive

resonant
eminent
tacit
convivial
debauchery

admonish
sagacious
trepidation
obsequious
aphorism

incorrigible
expiate
deprecate
mitigate
imperious

circuitous
punctilious
castigate
florid
exacerbate

ignominious
timorous
propensity
countenance
congenial

auspicious
laconic
lucrative
dissipate
feign

retribution
mercenary
compunction
mercurial
deference

Have a great summer; I look forward to seeing you in the fall, well-rested and well read!