

Forestview High School  
9<sup>th</sup> Grade AP-Prep English  
Summer Reading List and Assignment

Incoming freshman who are taking AP-Prep English are required to choose one of the titles from the following list. Students may choose any of the novels.

While reading, keep a **Dialectical Journal** for your chosen text. This will be due on the **first day of class**. Also on the first day of class, students will take a reading quiz to test their knowledge and understanding of the text.

During the first week of school, students will have an assignment pertaining to their novel which will count as a test grade. Directions for this assignment will be given on the first day of school.

**\*\*Important note:** Students who have English during second semester are still required to turn in their summer reading assignment on the **first day** of the **first semester**. It is your responsibility to find your teacher and give her your assignment.

**\*\*Important note:** The assignment requires **absolutely no** outside help or research. It should be **100%** your response. Do not use Cliffnotes, Sparknotes, or anything of the like to aid you in your responses. Do not find responses on the internet. I will be diligently checking for plagiarism.

**\*\*Late work will result in a zero.**

If you have any questions, please contact Keyonu Rivera @: [kmrivera@gaston.k12.nc.us](mailto:kmrivera@gaston.k12.nc.us)

### **Title and author of summer reading choices:**

*The Old Man and the Sea* by Ernest Hemingway

*The Good Earth* by Pearl S. Buck

*A Separate Peace* by John Knowles

*Pride and Prejudice* by Jane Austen

*Little Women* by Louisa May Alcott

*The Prince and the Pauper* by Mark Twain

*Narrative of the Life of Frederick Douglass* by Frederick Douglass

*Treasure Island* by Robert Louis Stevenson

*The Boy in the Striped Pajamas* by John Boyne

## Dialectical Journal Instructions

### Summer Reading

While you read your chosen book, you will be responsible for keeping a journal throughout the text. I recommended purchasing a composition book, small notebook or journal to keep you organized and on task.

- You will keep a dialectical journal throughout the reading of your novel. **There is a minimum of 25 total entries.**
- Directions: Set up your journal in the following way:
  - Divide a sheet of paper in half (vertically) and label the two columns as such:
    - Concrete Detail (quotes)
      - You must cite and number each quote. Ex.: (author page).
    - Commentary (your response)
- This assignment will be due August 25, 2014.
- You will be tested over the novel during the first week of class.

A dialectical journal is a conversation between you and what you are reading. It highlights the questions, connections, and ideas that you have as you read.

This process is an important way to understand a piece of literature. By writing about literature, you make your own meaning of the work in order to truly understand it. When you do this yourself, then the text belongs to you—you have made it yours. The passages are there for everyone to read; however, the connections and interpretations are uniquely yours. You are neither right nor wrong in your response. So be willing to take risks, try your ideas, and be honest.

Since the journal is a conversation between you and the text, you'll need to record parts of the text and your thoughts about the text. On the left side of your journal page, record phrases, sentences or short passages that interest you. On the right side of the page, write your thoughts about the quoted text. Use literary terms in your reflections and elaborate as you express your thoughts! Aim for a mix of comments about:

- what you think something means
- the personal connections you make (to a character, setting, event)
- patterns you notice
- predictions you can pose
- commentary on important decisions made by characters, ideas expressed, or key events
- observations about a character
- what seems unusual
- recognition of a literary technique and ideas about its meaning and purpose

Some Sentences could include...

<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>● Why did ...</li><li>● Who is ...</li><li>● This setting reminds me of ...</li><li>● This doesn't make sense because ...</li><li>● This character reminds me of ... because ...</li><li>● If I were (character), at this point, I would ...</li></ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>● This idea/event seems to be important</li><li>● because ...</li><li>● The language makes me feel the author is ...</li><li>● When the author does ... , it creates a ... tone that ...</li></ul>
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<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• What would happen if ...</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• The details create / show ...</li> <li>• The ... is compared to a ... and it really makes me</li> <li>• see how ...</li> <li>• The ... symbolizes ... and it ... (the effect)</li> <li>• With the ... , the author creates an image of ...</li> <li>• Now I understand...</li> </ul>
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Entries will be evaluated on details, thoughtfulness, and variety in the type of entry. Some sample journal entries follow.

***Of Mice and Men* by John Steinbeck**

<p>“A few miles south of Soledad, the Salinas River drops in close to the hillside bank and run deep and green. The water is warm too, for it has slipped twinkling over the yellow sands in the sunlight before reaching the narrow pool. On one side of the river the golden foothill slopes curve up to the strong and rocky Gabilan mountains ... sycamores with mottled, white, recumbent limbs and branches that arch over the pool.” (1)</p>	<p>There’s something about the description of the pool that makes it sound lovely. The complex sentences and verbs are fluid: drops, run, slipped, curve, and arch. The descriptors are fresh and peaceful: deep and green, twinkling, golden, mottled, and recumbent. With this lovely pool against the backdrop of the “strong and rocky Gabilan mountains,” the spot feels like a refuge.</p>
<p>“Behind him walked his opposite, a huge man ... and he walked heavily, dragging his feet a little, the way a bear drags his paws.” (2)</p>	<p>What a great image the metaphor creates! The man is lumbering along like a bear. It makes me think he’s bulky and slow. Bears can be fierce and protective too. I wonder in what other ways the man will be like a bear.</p>
<p>“Lennie dabbled his big paw in the water and wiggled his fingers so the water arose in little splashes; ... (3)</p>	<p>Ah, we have more comparison to a bear. This time he’s playing and splashing. It makes him seem childlike.</p>



<b>TEXT</b>	<b>RESPONSE</b>

<b>TEXT</b>	<b>RESPONSE</b>

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