



AP Literature

HHS 2024-2025

Summer Assignment for 2024-2025 Academic Year

Seniors:

Welcome to AP Literature and Composition! I'm really excited to have all of you in class, and I'm glad you made the decision to challenge yourselves with this course. Our course will focus on writing and reading and analyzing a variety of literature. It may be challenging at times and might require you to step out of your comfort zone, but the end results will be worth the effort.

To prepare us for the year, we need to be ready to hit the ground running on the first day. I have selected two novels that you will be required to read over the summer. I am not going to require a reading log, annotations, notes, or paper (yet) that will go along with these novels. The objective is to have a common base that we can utilize to get started immediately. I encourage you to take notes on the novels, but they will be for your own benefit and class discussions, not a graded assignment.

The two novels are *The Great Gatsby*, by F. Scott Fitzgerald, and *Frankenstein*, by Mary Shelley. Both novels are available for checkout at the main office, or you can acquire your own copy. If you check out *Frankenstein* from the school, note that the version contains the novel and critical essays. You only need to read the novel. We will start with *Gatsby* and then do *Frankenstein* second. You will need to be ready to discuss *Gatsby* on day one. With *Frankenstein* I recommend you read it over the summer and then review your notes right before we start discussion, which will probably be around the third week of school.

In keeping with the course, there are five main areas that I would like you to examine as you read:

- Characters and Characterization
- Setting
- Structure
- Narration
- Figurative Language

We will talk about all of these with each novel, so be prepared to join in on the conversation with your own ideas.

I'm really excited about next year, and I hope you all are, too. Have a great summer, enjoy the novels, and I look forward to seeing you in the fall. Please email me if you have any questions at all.

Mr. Sykes
jsykes@helenaschools.org