

To: Prospective students of English 4 AP: Literature and Composition  
From: Mr. Pomeroy  
RE: Entry Reading Requirement

Prior to the beginning of your AP English class you must select and read one of the following works:

*Anna Karenina* by Leo Tolstoy  
*Beloved* by Toni Morrison  
*Ceremony* by Leslie Marmon Silko  
*Crime and Punishment* by Fyodor Dostoevski  
*Heart of Darkness* by Joseph Conrad  
*House Made of Dawn* by N Scott Momaday  
*Invisible Man* by Ralph Ellison  
*Jane Eyre* by Charlotte Bronte  
*King Lear* by William Shakespeare  
*The Mayor of Casterbridge* by Thomas Hardy  
*Silas Marner* by George Eliot  
*One Hundred Years of Solitude* by Gabriel Garcia Marquez  
*Portrait of the Artist as a Young Man* by James Joyce  
*Sons and Lovers* by D.H. Lawrence  
*Wuthering Heights* by Emily Bronte

### **Written response journal – quote project**

As you read your selected work use post-it notes or 3x5 notecards to mark passages (anywhere from a few lines to a paragraph in length) that you find particularly thought provoking or significant for their dramatic or literary value. Then, when you have finished reading, go back and review these “flagged” passages and decide on five that you consider the most important and representative of the work itself. For each of these quotes, which you will copy complete with page # into your journal, you will do a 2 paragraph response as follows:

In paragraph one you will explain how the passage “fits” into the work as a whole, answering questions such as how it contributes to character development, plot, setting, and theme.

In paragraph two you will react to the passage as a reader. This will show me **why** you have selected this passage. Your response should include some of the following topics but is **not** limited to only these suggestions:

- Why does the passage impress, intrigue, horrify, or puzzle you?

- Do you find the author’s use of language appealing or powerful? What literary devices or imagery contribute to this appeal? Do you just like the sound of it? Is the language beautiful, descriptive, graphic?
- Is the passage particularly meaningful? Is it a high point in the book and why?
- Are you in agreement/disagreement with the ideas expressed?
- Does the passage remind you of a situation you have lived as well?
- Does the passage make you laugh out loud, or make you melancholy, or make you something else?
- Does the author or the character raise intriguing questions that challenge or expand your thinking?
- You get the idea.

Next, select **another, different** passage as “Quote of the Book.” This is the passage that best captures the essence – the true meaning – of the work for you as a reader. In another well written paragraph explain how and why this passage has earned your selection as **the one passage that you would absolutely want saved should this book ever be lost or destroyed.**

Finally, write a reflective letter about your experience of reading the work **and** creating your quotes journal. In this letter (1 page Minimum) describe any thoughts, feelings, insights you have attained as a result of the reading and marking and selecting the quotes. Some things to think about as you craft this letter may include the following:

- What did you work on the hardest or struggle with the most while doing this assignment?
- What really worked well for you on this task? What did you do best?
- Where were you drawn into and where were you pulled away from the text? What are the author’s – or the story’s – greatest strengths and weaknesses?
- What value, besides entertainment, does the book have?
- Did you find yourself changing your mind about the book or the assignment?
- What do you as a reader need to focus on for your next assignment?

The purpose of this letter is to “talk” with me about the book and to make me “see” your learning from your point of view.

### **Important reminders**

All aspects of this assignment to be typed

Selected quotes must be from **throughout** the work

Selected passages to be copied exactly with quotation marks surrounding passage, followed by page # in parenthesis EX. (235)

Assignment due on the **first** day of the semester - 1 letter grade/day deducted for late entry

Think deeply about this book as you complete your journal; a major unit during the semester will be a critical research paper on some particular aspect of your chosen work