

WMHS English I Pre-AP
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Summer Reading Assignment for English I Pre-AP 2020-2021

Welcome to West Monroe High School and English I Pre-AP. I look forward to working with you in making a successful transition to high school course work, especially in English. To prepare for this transition, please read this entire summer reading assignment carefully before beginning your work and share this information with your parents. If you or your parents have any questions or concerns after reading through this assignment, please email me at my email address listed at the top of the page. This class is purposefully designed to give you a strong foundation, not only for Advanced Placement English, but also for college, the ACT, and the SAT. The curriculum for this class includes weekly vocabulary, rigorous reading, writing, class discussions and homework. As a Pre-AP student, you are expected to come to class prepared with all assignments completed. Please remember that this level of English I is optional, and any student who does not complete the summer reading assignment will be removed from English I Pre-AP and placed in a regular English I class before the beginning of the 2020-2021 academic year. There will be no placement tests for any incoming freshmen. The summer reading assignment is as follows:

Before June 5, 2020: Purchase your own paperback copy of the novel *Fahrenheit 451* by Ray Bradbury to begin reading and annotating and join my English I Pre-AP Summer Reading Google Classroom, using the classroom code: 6byamge

During the month of June: Read the actual book with a positive attitude! Enjoy the story, the mystery, and the language. Bradbury published the book in 1951 as a prophetic work of science fiction. Read with an open mind to evaluate how much of his book actually has become reality in the modern-day world and the effects it had on society both then and now. What message about life in the future (our present) was he trying to get across to his readers? (You may want to annotate as you read, using your first impressions to annotate while they are fresh on your mind, or you may want to read the entire book all the way through once to enjoy the story and then go back through the book and do a second close reading to annotate important points as listed below. I tend to do a combination of the two strategies, but you do what you feel will work best for you.)

ANNOTATE THE FOLLOWING AS YOU READ: (Use a blue ink pen or highlighter to underline and label the following in the novel and make notes about them in the margin)

- * Major and minor characters/characterization - Make notes about both the direct and indirect characterization of the characters. Note physical descriptions and the things the characters say and do that reveal character traits and personality. Note what other characters say about the character. Note if the character is static or dynamic and if a character is dynamic, how the character changes.
- * Conflicts the main character faces - type of conflict, who or what the main character is in conflict with and how the conflicts are resolved. How the conflict is resolved often points the reader to the theme.

*Be sure to box unfamiliar vocabulary words. Look up their definition/synonyms and define them briefly in the margin.

*Tone - note the author's diction and the connotation of the words he uses and make notes about the tone of the story based on the diction and connotation used by the author.

*Figurative Language, such as imagery, similes, metaphors, etc... – note the effect of the figurative language in margin.

*Literary Devices such as symbolism, foreshadowing and allusions – note the effect of the literary device in the margin.

*Title of the novel – What is the significance of the title and how does it relate to the author's theme?

*Theme - by the end of the novel, using prior annotations from the main characters, conflicts and how the conflict is resolved, write a complete sentence stating what you believe is the author's theme or message about life he was revealing through this novel.

By July 2, 2020, be sure to read and annotate the first 76 pages of the book and complete the first assignment posted on the Summer Reading Google classroom.

By July 30, 2020, be sure to have finished reading and annotating the novel and complete the second assignment posted on the Summer Reading Google classroom.

It is helpful to read/re-read your novel and annotations in late July or early August to refresh your memory over the characters, plot events/conflicts and literary devices used in the book, but do not wait until the last minute to begin this assignment. Again, if you have any questions, feel free to email me over the summer at the email address listed at the top of the page or post questions in our Summer Reading Google classroom.

THERE WILL BE A MAJOR TEST OVER THIS NOVEL WITHIN TWO WEEKS OF THE START OF THE SCHOOL YEAR.

GOOGLE CLASSROOM SUMMER READING ASSIGNMENTS WILL BE CHECKED AND GRADED THROUGHOUT THE SUMMER. IF YOU DO NOT PARTICIPATE IN THE SUMMER GOOGLE CLASSROOM ASSIGNMENTS, YOU WILL BE REMOVED FROM ENGLISH I PRE-AP AND PLACED IN REGULAR ENGLISH I.

Enjoy your summer, and I look forward to meeting you through the Google classroom assignments over the summer and in person when high school begins in August. Please come prepared with your summer reading assignment completed and ready to work hard to ensure a rewarding high school career.