



12th Grade AP Literature and Composition Summer Reading Assignment

Mandatory Read: *The Kite Runner* by Khalid Hosseini

You will be expected to write a placement essay on *The Kite Runner* during the first week of school. The essay topics require you to explain the novel's character development and major thematic implications. The essay will be completed **in class** within the first week of school, and will serve as an initial assessment of 12th AP writing ability. When leveling classes, scores on initial assessments will be considered. Use the ideas listed below to guide your reading.

Additionally, read ONE of the suggested summer reads. All novels listed illustrate either a 1) coming of age theme (meaning it showcases the physical, moral, and/or psychological development of the protagonist from youth to maturation) and/or 2) a complex family relationship theme.

Ideas/Questions to consider while reading:

1. Identify important quotes and passages that you find significant
2. Identify important characters and significant themes
 - a. How does the character(s) change and develop over time?
 - b. How does the author develop the themes throughout various scenes in the novel?
3. Examine connections from the novel to your life, our larger society, and historical implications
4. Identify what you liked and disliked about the books and explain your reasons.
5. Would you recommend this book to your classmates? Why or why not?

If you have any questions or concerns, contact the 12th AP teacher at Laura.Washington@detroitk12.org
Happy Reading!

“One major factor separates high school graduates who are ready for college from those who aren't, a new study shows: how well students handle complex reading.” (Education on NBC News, 2006)