



## AP Literature Summer Reading

Welcome to AP Literature! In order to prepare you for your final year (congratulations, by the way) these summer reading assignments have been designed to maintain your academic readiness. Throughout the 2017-2018, we will explore various literary works in order first to develop our critical thought as a student of literature and then secondly to prepare for the AP exam. After all, if you're going to do all this hard work, you should probably get something out of it beyond the intrinsic deepening of knowledge, right?

Your first summer text is the classic *A Tale of Two Cities* and is still applicable today as when it was first written. Copies are available online (link provided) and various libraries and bookstores. The second novel is the dystopian novel, *1984* by George Orwell. Given our society's struggle with privacy, protection, and technology *1984* is resplendent with themes and ideas for the modern student. Read these texts before the start of school.

Your assessments will be two-fold. First, for *A Tale of Two Cities* you'll provide a literary analysis paper that examines the historical significance of the novel while showing its modern connection to the reader today. Your second paper will assess the role of technology and Orwell's warning against an intrusive government. Each paper will have specific criteria and graded on the AP scale, but be a significant grade during first quarter. Packets will be available from Mr. Herndon in mid-May and available throughout the summer in the main office.

All summer reading assignments are due August 29<sup>th</sup>. Students that are new to Pasco County and Zephyrhills High School may be eligible for extensions. Use resources like Shmoop and Sparknotes, as supplements to your own analysis, but do not depend on them alone for your analysis. The purpose behind the summer reading assignment is maintain the academic momentum, prepare for the AP exam, and assess your particular needs as a student. If you simply regurgitate the opinions of someone else, I cannot adequately determine your needs or starting point. I look forward to seeing you all soon and until then, read and see the world of literature come alive today (or something inspirational like that...)

Sincerely,  
Hugh Herndon  
[hherndon@pasco.k12.fl.us](mailto:hherndon@pasco.k12.fl.us)

### ***A Tale of Two Cities* Literary Analysis Paper**

**Write a 3-4-page essay in which you analyze the main character in the novel. Students should discuss how certain events change, or alter, the main character as he or she progresses through the novel from beginning to end. Students may consider different events, obstacles, conversations, or other characters that lead the main character to change and grow. Students should use quotations from the novel to support each of their points. Students need to have a clear thesis statement in the introduction that clearly states the idea being proven within the paper. As this is a formal paper, third person point-of-view should be used (not the informal first person-no use of "I"), and you should end with a concluding paragraph that restates your thesis and reviews your main points.**

**All papers should be: Typed, Times New Roman, 12-point font, double-spaced with 1-inch margins, correct MLA formatted.**

### ***1984* Role of Technology and Propaganda**

**Write a 3-4-page essay in which you analyze why do modern governments choose to convey information through propaganda? How and why does the Party use propaganda? Is it meant to suppress the citizens of Oceania from starting revolution, or frighten them, or brainwash them? How does this compare to some of the modern propaganda techniques used across the world during not only World War but during current times as well? Along with discussion of propaganda, be sure to discuss the role of technology within the novel. How is technology today used as a form of propaganda? How does the government use propaganda and technology today?**

**All papers should be: Typed, Times New Roman, 12-point font, double-spaced with 1-inch margins, correct MLA formatted.**