

## 11<sup>th</sup> Grade AP Language and Composition Required Summer Reading for Students Admitted to This Class

All students must read **John Steinbeck's *East of Eden*** as well as **one** of the books listed below. *East of Eden* will form the course's first major unit of study, so it is imperative that you read this book with care. If possible, you should **buy** both books. In preparation for the essay you will write during the first week of school, you must **underline** important and interesting passages in both books and **make frequent, copious marginal notes**. Look for important **social and historical ideas and connections** as well as how the author uses language to develop **theme, character, and plot**. Use large post-it notes for anything you cannot fit into the margins of the book. (If you must get the book from a library, use numerous post-it-notes for all your annotations and comments.) In addition, you should record on separate paper a **minimum of fifteen significant quotations and explanations of their significance** (with page references). Your annotated books and your lists of quotes will be collected **on the first day of class**.

During the first week of school, you will be able to use your marked-up books and lists of quotations for an **in-class essay exam** in which you will be expected to analyze the relevancy of these books to the study of English language usage and composition. For this essay you will need to understand these books' language, stylistic devices, theme(s), and literary merit. Failure to satisfactorily complete the summer reading assignment (both the book annotation and the in-class essay) will result in your **removal from the entire Honors/Advanced Placement program**.

Edward Albee	<i>Who's Afraid of Virginia Woolf</i> <b>AND</b> <i>Zoo Story</i> (read both plays)
Frederick Lewis Allen	<i>Only Yesterday</i>
James Baldwin	<i>Another Country</i> <b>AND</b> <i>Blues for Mister Charlie</i> (read both)
Dee Brown	<i>Bury My Heart at Wounded Knee</i>
Pearl Buck	<i>The Good Earth</i>
Willa Cather	<i>The Professor's House</i>
Benjamin Franklin	<i>The Autobiography</i>
David Guterson	<i>Snow Falling on Cedars</i>
Joseph Heller	<i>Catch 22</i>
Ernest Hemingway	<i>A Farewell to Arms</i>
Michael Herr	<i>Dispatches</i>
Henry James	<i>The Americans</i> <b>OR</b> <i>Washington Square</i>
Sinclair Lewis	<i>Babbitt</i> <b>OR</b> <i>Main Street</i>
Carson McCullers	<i>The Heart is a Lonely Hunter</i>
Robert Pirsig	<i>Zen and the Art of Motorcycle Maintenance</i>
Mike Rose	<i>Lives on the Boundary: The Struggles and Achievements of America's Underprepared</i>
Mark Twain	<i>Life on the Mississippi</i>
Kurt Vonnegut	<i>Mother Night</i> <b>OR</b> <i>The Sirens of Titan</i>
Edith Wharton	<i>The House of Mirth</i>
Thornton Wilder	<i>The Skin of Our Teeth</i> <b>AND</b> <i>Our Town</i> (read both)
Tennessee Williams	<i>A Streetcar Named Desire</i> <b>AND</b> <i>Glass Menagerie</i> (read both)
August Wilson	<i>Fences</i> <b>AND</b> <i>The Piano Lesson</i> (read both)
Tom Wolfe	<i>Electric Kool-Aid Acid Test</i>