

**ADVANCED PLACEMENT LITERATURE AND COMPOSITION
SUMMER READING**

To: Students Entering Advanced Placement Literature and Composition

From: Central Academy English Department

As a student entering Advanced Placement Literature and Composition, you should take some time this summer to read. The motif for this coming year is “strangers in a strange land.” All of these pieces are modern, interesting, and fit our motif. Please read **one** of the following books:

Dalene Matthee *Fiela’s Child*

This 350 page book by the South African writer, Matthee, is a touching tale of a mother and a child. It weaves a story of the oppression blacks have faced in South Africa yet the triumph that can occur as well. It deals with family issues of trust and discipline and a young boy’s search for his identity. This will most likely only be found online but is in stock on Amazon. Please order early and give yourself two-three weeks to read this work.

Yashar Kemal *Memed, My Hawk*

This 371 page book by Turkish author, Kemal, is about a boy growing up in poverty in a small village ruled by a cruel landlord. He fights back and ends up as a “brigand” trying to liberate his people and reunite with his first and only love. This will most likely only be found online but is in stock on Amazon. Please order early and give yourself two-three weeks to read this work.

Khaled Hosseini *A Thousand Splendid Suns*

This 432 page book is about the women of Afghanistan and the sacrifices and trials they have had to endure. It is just as good as *Kite Runner* and was just used on the 2011 AP exam. This delves into a lot of wonderful issues about women, love, loss, war, death, and friendship. You could find this at any local book store or library or you could order online.

Michael Chabon *Kavalier and Clay*

This 656 page book is long but well worth it. It is about two boys who combine their talents (one for writing the stories and the other for his drawings) to create a comic book superhero. This book is about their relationship as they try to become successful publishing their comic books. It goes from comics about Hitler to the war to life after and beyond. It has escape artists and really shows how art can defy the chaos and idiocy of war.

Please review the book right before returning to school because you will be asked to write about your summer reading upon your return.

One final suggestion for parents and students alike! Please consider reading *Where You Go Is Not Who You’ll Be: An Antidote to the College Admissions Mania* by Frank Bruni. We have so many students and parents who could benefit from reading this work BEFORE the senior year.

Enjoy!

Book Orders:

Every year, students need a set of novels or texts that they can annotate (so it cannot be a library book). We use a bulk supplier that allows us to purchase these books at a reduced price. You may choose to order one or more of these books from us or you can supply your own. This year, 12th graders will need to purchase these books: (Academy prices are listed)

Color Purple (\$10.00)

Brothers Karmazov (\$13.00)

Four Great Tragedies (\$6.00)

Misc. Modern Drama (\$15.00)

Woman Warrior: A Girlhood Among Ghosts (\$11.00)

After July 16, when you go through online registration for your home school, you'll have the opportunity to order and pay for the books you need for your Academy English class. This can be very convenient because you can order and pay all at once without filling out any other forms.

But you do have other options.

If you do not want to pay for the books during the online registration then you can order your books with this [LINK](#). (Only use this link if you do NOT order and pay for books during online registration.) Kim Kinney, Office Manager at Academy, will manually add your order to your child's fee page in Infinite Campus. NOTE: this link is for 12th grade AP Literature only. If you have other children taking English at Academy, you'll get another email similar to this one with the link for that class. Each child must be entered separately.

Families who qualify for a textbook fee reduction or exemption, will also receive their English books for free or at a reduced price. Place your order using the link above and we will automatically credit your child's account as appropriate.