

Welcome to Advanced Placement English Literature and Composition! I will look forward to meeting you and working with you toward the goal of improving your reading, writing, and test-taking skills as part of the AP English Literature curricular journey toward success on the national exam in May. For those students who will have me for the second year, I look forward to working with you again and helping you continue to grow your AP skills. AP English Literature focuses on fiction—short stories, novels, poetry, and drama. At the end of this course, hopefully, you will be glad you took the course and be very pleased with your academic growth. I have taught AP English Literature more than twenty years—in two different schools, and I guarantee that I will enjoy teaching it one more time. You are invited to contact me or by email during the summer to address questions you might have.

### **Overview of AP Literature Course Requirements:**

- Successful completion of the Summer Reading/Writing assignments listed below is a requirement for enrollment in AP Literature
- Quarterly reading assignments including text chapters, novels, short stories, plays, essays, and poems.
- Quarterly writing assignments including topic journals, quote responses, assigned text responses, previous AP Exam question essays, related essays, and original works.
- Vocabulary development through frequent vocabulary study and testing
- Students must complete every exam practice multiple choice and essay exercise and work toward skill improvement.
- Students must complete the AP Literature Practice Exam work throughout the year.
- Students must take the National Exam in May.

### **Summer Assignments:**

**Reading**—Please purchase your own copies of the texts named below so that you can mark up the texts as you read. **You are to read one novel--Emily Bronte's Wuthering Heights.**

As you actively read this novel, mark up the text—using highlighters/pen/ or Post-Its (or whatever brand you prefer) to mark pages of text that seem most significant to you in the development of the work's themes, characters, and overall significance. We will review this text right before the exam in May, so read to remember and not just to complete the task. Try to make connections (comparisons of characters, themes, etc) to other pieces of literature that you have read. I will look through your marked texts during that testing period—and record your grade (minor) for that task then.

Please email me at

[melaniemartin@pickens.k12.sc.us](mailto:melaniemartin@pickens.k12.sc.us)

Identify yourself in the subject line as AP Literature student.

**Writing— Write detailed and insightful notes (bulleted lists or paragraphs) for the following literary devices. Type these notes for submission. No student should share work with another student for this assignment.**

**Part One: Setting—time and place, details that set mood for reader**

**Part Two: Characters—major and minor**

**Part Three: Conflicts—internal and external**

**Part Four: Themes (Theme statements must be written in complete sentences.)**

**Write one detailed paragraph to explain how each theme is developed in the text.**

**Provide at least two theme statements/paragraphs.**

**Part Five: Literary Devices (listed and defined below)**

**Allusion**—a reference to a published work of literature or a historical event or person

**Figurative Language**- simile, metaphor, metonymy, synecdoche, personification, apostrophe, and symbol. You may include others that you identify.

**Imagery**- language that creates strong sensory impressions (sight, taste, touch, smell, hearing)

**Irony**- a discrepancy or incongruity that adds depth

- Verbal Irony**- the discrepancy occurs regarding what is said and what is really meant
- Situational Irony**- the discrepancy occurs regarding the situational circumstances and what would be ideal or appropriate
- Dramatic Irony**- the discrepancy occurs regarding what the author/audience knows and understands in comparison to what the characters in the story-line are experiencing or discovering

## Part Two: Annotated Reading Log

You have been preparing for one of the questions on the AP English Literature exam for many years. **Type (sample entry provided) an annotated reading log which lists the name of the book (underlined title), the author, major characters, themes (expressed in a complete sentence like my example below), and a detailed but brief summary of the text (five sentences per text).** You may discuss works with a classmate, but you may NOT share log content or submit identical reading logs. **You should include every text you have studied in English class beginning with Honors English 1 and every text of recognized literary merit you have read outside of class since grade 8/9.** You will print this typed reading log for submission. You will use this log in your review for the national exam!

Title	Author	Characters	Themes	Summary
<u>Aging with Grace</u>	Kathy D. Grant	Grace Duncan, Kathy Duncan Grant and her extended family—Bud,	Families are held together through shared memories and shared loves.	KDG cares for her aging mother in the last year of Mama Grace's life and teaches her daughter the last

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		David, Shirley, Gary)	Difficult circumstances provide opportunities for significant personal growth.	life lesson—how to die and leave a legacy of love for your family.
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\*Disclaimer: Aging with Grace, the memoir I wrote after the death of my mother in 2009, has not yet achieved the status of literary merit, but in retirement, I will have the time to edit this text and submit it for publication. I am eager to work on this text and to further pursue my aspirations of becoming a published author.

### Grading details:

- I will collect your completed summer work on the first day of class—a major assessment. No late work will be accepted for academic credit.
- Do not purchase a notebook or folder for this assignment. Simply, staple your pages together for submission.
- After a class period of discussion, you will take a major test (detail specific) to demonstrate that you read and comprehended Wuthering Heights. I recommend studying your typed notes!
- During Quarter One, you will write two essays on Wuthering Heights.
- During Quarter Four, you will write at least one essay on Wuthering Heights.