

AP Literature and Composition

Mrs. Hoffman

2023-2024 Summer Reading

Hello and welcome to AP Lit! This will be a challenging, yet fun course designed to enhance your abilities in analyzing literature as well as strengthen your writing skills. To prepare for your SENIOR YEAR (eeekk), you will need to complete a summer reading novel.

Your novel is...(drum roll please): *A Prayer for Owen Meany* by John Irving. You will need to obtain a physical copy of the novel! We will begin working with the novel on the second day of school, **Wednesday, August 9**, so make sure to bring your **annotated novel** to class. This is a lengthy novel, so please prioritize your time and make sure to complete the novel before school starts. While you read, make sure to annotate the text - this will benefit you for class discussions, activities, an essay, and a comprehensive test.

Annotation suggestions:

- Circle unknown words
- Underline examples of figurative language
- [Bracket] phrases that are relevant to the theme
- Use exclamation marks (!) at the Aha! moments
- Use question marks (?) for parts that are confusing or that you are questioning

*****Also, please go ahead and purchase a copy of *How To Read Literature Like A Professor* (revised edition) by Thomas Foster.** We will use this book as a guide to analyzing our summer reading novel beginning Monday, August 14, 2023.***

If you have questions before this school year is over, please come see me in room 109. If you would like to contact me over the summer, you may email me at hoffman.mollie.e@muscogee.k12.ga.us, but please give me time to respond. I am looking forward to a wonderful year ahead!

A brief note: Your former AP Lang course focused more on analyzing **non-fiction works**, such as news articles, essays, speeches, memoirs, and more. You developed skills to help you explain an idea, argue a point, or persuade a reader that a particular viewpoint is correct. In AP Lit, you will focus more on analyzing **works of fiction**, such as poetry, short stories, novels, and plays. In this course, you'll develop skills that focus mainly on close reading; with these skills you will dissect literary works and write analyses of them (AP College Board). Please keep this in mind as you read and prepare to begin this course.