

# AP English IV Summer Reading Assignment

2020-2021

One of the expectations of you as a senior in AP English is to have completed the summer reading assignment. You need to have completely read the books and completed the assignment before coming to class when school begins after summer. You will be expected to complete timed essays, objective multiple choice exams, group assignments, and other assignments related to the novel and book when school begins in August. You WILL be expected to have completely read the novel by the time school begins in August!! The first 2-3 weeks' worth of work in AP English Literature and Composition will depend on your having read and understood the novel. You will have other assignments to complete in class as well as out of class (aside from these two books), so it is imperative that you read the books over the summer.

You will need to purchase or borrow from your public library a copy of *Lord of the Flies* by William Golding. If you can purchase your own copy, you can annotate as you read. If not, you can use sticky notes to mark important passages. I strongly encourage you to purchase the novel, as you will need it for class. You can purchase this novel easily at a local book store or online.

**IMPORTANT:** The students will read a variety of novels, plays, and poems both in and out of class. The novels and plays contain mature content and graphic scenes/language at times. The literature chosen for AP English Literature and Composition has appeared on the AP English Literature and Composition exam in the past.

Your assignment will be to write a four-paragraph essay in response to the following prompt. The essay will be due August 17<sup>th</sup>. We will work on our drafts the first two days of school. You may e-mail me over the summer at [margotreat@mooreschools.com](mailto:margotreat@mooreschools.com) if you have any questions. I will check my e-mail every Friday evening. The essay must be typed (times new roman, 12 pt. font ONLY) and double-spaced. Essay should be a MINIMUM of four FULL paragraphs. Be sure to use evidence from the book to prove your thesis. This essay is just a draft! You will be able to revise this essay in class with my help.

Prompt: One of the strongest human drives seems to be the desire for power. Write an essay in which you discuss how ONE character in *Lord of the Flies* struggles to free himself from the power of others OR seeks to gain power over others. Be sure to demonstrate in your essay how the author uses the struggle for power to enhance the meaning of the work as a whole (i.e., discuss how the struggle for power affects the overall meaning or theme of the novel).

EXAMPLE thesis for this essay: Through the use of symbolism and an isolated setting in *Lord of the Flies*, William Golding illustrates Piggy's struggle in finding his own voice despite the power and control the other boys exert over him; this attempt at independence and assertiveness reveals Piggy's surprising knowledge and intuitive nature in regards to humanity as the society around them shatters.

