



Northside ISD Curriculum & Instruction English IV AP Summer Reading

Welcome to AP Literature!

Reading is one of the best things you can do to prepare yourself for the challenges of the upcoming school year and beyond. Now more than ever, it is important to sharpen your critical reading skills, expand your vocabulary and enhance your focus and imagination - all in the comfort of your own home. There's no better way to accomplish this than by sitting down with a good book.

We are asking that you, as an AP Literature student, read at least one novel of **your choice** this summer. **At the end of this list are some questions and ideas to focus on while you read.**

Remember, you can choose any book you wish to read - it does not have to be on the list below. The following titles are included just to give you some ideas. The novels marked by an asterisk indicate those which are on the Northside approved book list. Other titles may contain adult themes and content, so we encourage you to do some research before selecting a title.

You can check out digital books on Sora, Libby, and Overdrive through your school library.

Happy reading!

Romance

1. *All the Ugly and Wonderful Things* by Bryn Greenwood
2. *Frankly In Love* by David Yoon
3. *The Importance of Being Earnest** by Oscar Wilde
4. *Jane Eyre** by Charlotte Brontë
5. *Just Listen* by Sarah Dessen
6. *Like Water for Chocolate* by Laura Esquivel
7. *Love in the Time of Cholera* by Gabriel García Márquez
8. *Pride* by Ibi Zoboi
9. *Pride and Prejudice** by Jane Austen
10. *Their Eyes Were Watching God** by Zora Neale Hurston

Sci Fi, Dystopian, Post Apocalyptic

1. *1984** by George Orwell
2. *1Q84* by Haruki Murakami
3. *The Andromeda Strain* by Michael Crichton
4. *Brave New World** by Aldous Huxley
5. *Breakfast of Champions* by Kurt Vonnegut, Jr.
6. *Exit West* by Mohsin Hamid
7. *The Handmaid's Tale* by Margaret Atwood
8. *The Man in the High Castle* by Philip K. Dick
9. *The Martian* by Andy Weir
10. *Never Let Me Go* by Kazuo Ishiguro
11. *Riot Baby* by Tochi Onyebuchi
12. *The Road* by Cormac McCarthy
13. *Slaughterhouse-Five** by Kurt Vonnegut
14. *Station Eleven* by Emily St. Jean Mandel
15. *The Testaments* by Margaret Atwood

Mystery

1. *All The Truth That's In Me* by Julie Berry
2. *Bel Canto* by Ann Patchett
3. *Bellweather Rhapsody* by Kate Racculia
4. *The Curious Incident of the Dog in the Nighttime** by Mark Haddon
5. *The English Patient* by Michael Ondaatje
6. *Everything I Never Told You* by Celeste Ng
7. *Room* by Emma Donoghue
8. *Shadow of the Wind* by Carlos Ruiz Safon
9. *The Thirteenth Tale* by Diane Setterfield
10. *The Twelve Lives of Samuel Hawley* by Hannah Tinti

Horror/Thriller

1. *Blue Moon* by Lee Child
2. *Frankenstein** by Mary Shelly
3. *Gwendy's Button Box* by Stephen King and Richard Chizmar
4. *The Haunting of Hill House* by Shirley Jackson
5. *A Headful of Ghosts* by Paul Tremblay
6. *Lisey's Story* by Stephen King
7. *A Madness So Discreet* by Mindy McGinnis
8. *The Queen of the Damned* by Anne Rice
9. *The Raven's Tale* by Cat Winters
10. *Room* by Emma Donoghue
11. *Zone One* by Colson Whitehead

Historical Fiction

1. *All the Light We Cannot See* by Anthony Doerr
2. *The Color Purple* by Alice Walker
3. *Fruit of the Drunken Tree* by Ingrid Rojas Contreras
4. *A God in Ruins* by Kate Atkinson
5. *Lincoln in the Bardo* by George Saunders
6. *The Nickel Boys* by Colson Whitehead
7. *Refuge* by Dina Nayeri
8. *The Things They Carried* by Tim O'Brien
9. *A Thousand Splendid Suns* by Khaled Hosseini
10. *The Underground Railroad* by Colson Whitehead
11. *Washington Black* by Esi Edugyan
12. *The Water Dancer* by Ta-Nahisi Coates
13. *The Yellow Birds* by Kevin Powers

Family Drama

1. *East of Eden* by John Steinbeck
2. *The God of Small Things* by Arundhati Roy
3. *The House of Spirits* by Isabel Allende
4. *The Joy Luck Club** by Amy Tan
5. *Little Fires Everywhere* by Celeste Ng
6. *The Memory Keeper's Daughter* by Kim Edwards
7. *The Namesake* by Jhumpa Lahiri
8. *A Tree Grows in Brooklyn* by Betty Smith
9. *Sing, Unburied, Sing* by Jesmyn Ward
10. *We the Animals* by Justin Torres

Books with Strong Female Protagonists

1. *Another Brooklyn* by Jacqueline Woodson
2. *A Place for Us* by Fatima Farheen Mirza
3. *The Book of Longings* by Sue Monk Kidd
4. *Circe* by Madeline Miller
5. *Eleanor Oliphant is Completely Fine* by Gail Honeyman
6. *Flight Behavior* by Barbara Kingsolver
7. *The Friend* by Sigrid Nunez

8. *The Other Americans* by Lalami, Laila
9. *Out of The Easy* by Ruta Sepetys
10. *A Tale for the Time Being* by Ruth Ozeki
11. *Their Eyes Were Watching God** by Zora Neale Hurston
12. *We Are Not From Here* by Jenny Torres Sanchez
13. *Where the Crawdads Sing* by Delia Owens
14. *With The Fire on High* by Elizabeth Acevedo

Books with Strong Male Protagonists

1. *A Farewell to Arms** by Ernest Hemingway
2. *Blood Meridian* by Cormac McCarthy
3. *The Boy In The Black Suit* by Jason Reynolds
4. *Dear Edward* by Ann Napolitano
5. *Fahrenheit 451** by Ray Bradbury
6. *George Washington Gomez* by Américo Paredes
7. *LaRose* by Louise Erdrich
8. *Lonesome Dove* by Larry McMurty
9. *News of the World* by Paulette Jiles
10. *On Earth We're Briefly Gorgeous* by Ocean Vuong
11. *Things Fall Apart** by Chinua Achebe

Relatable Stories of High School Drama

1. *The Absolutely True Diary of a Part-Time Indian* by Sherman Alexie
2. *Goodbye Days* by Jeff Zentner
3. *Little Fires Everywhere* by Celeste Ng
4. *Prep* by Curtis Sittenfeld
5. *Tradition* by Brendon Kiely
6. *The Topeka School* by Ben Lerner
7. *Us Against You* by Fredrik Backman

Coming of Age

1. *The Catcher in the Rye** by J.D. Salinger
2. *Dig* by A.S. King
3. *Everyone Knows You Go Home* by Natalia Sylvester
4. *Fruit of the Drunken Tree* by Ingrid Rojas Contreras
5. *The House of Broken Angels* by Luis Alberto Urrea
6. *The Kite Runner** by Khaled Hosseini
7. *Patron Saints of Nothing* by Randy Ribay
8. *Purple Hibiscus* by Chimamanda Ngozi Adichie
9. *The Serpent King* by Jeff Zentner
10. *Where We Come From* by Oscar Cásares

* Indicates vetted, approved titles from the NISD English I-IV Approved Reading List

Read with a purpose: As you enjoy your summer read, think about the following BIG IDEAS and key questions. You may choose to keep a journal, highlight evidence in your reading, annotate, and/or take notes (digital if e-reading). These concepts make up the foundation of the English Literature and Composition course, and we will build on developing these skills throughout the year. You will not turn in responses, but this focus will assist you with the assignments and discussion at the beginning of the school year.

NARRATION

- How does the particular point of view (first, third, etc.) used in your selected text affect the details and information presented to the reader? Consider questions such as: Is the narrator reliable? Does the narrator have biases? What details does the narrator provide? What details are omitted?

CHARACTER

- What drives the character to think, feel, and/or act in the manner he or she does?
- Explain how a character's own choices, actions, and speech reveal complexities in that character.

SETTING

- What is the relationship between the aspects(location, time of day, geography, etc.) of the setting and a character?
- What is the relationship between a setting's historical time period and a character?

STRUCTURE

- How does the sequence of events affect the presentation and/or development of the characters and conflict?
- Identify some striking contrasts in the text.

NARRATION

- How does the particular point of view (first, third, etc.) used in your selected text affect the details and information presented to the reader?