June 2017

Dear AP English Student,

To highlight the importance of each student’s continuing to read and prepare for college and to add valuable literature to next year’s AP English Curriculum, I would like AP Lit students to read the following supplemental pieces:

1. *A Prayer for Owen Meany*, by John Irving
2. *Native Son*, by Richard Wright

We will use these supplemental novels, and the students’ knowledge of such throughout the academic year. We will be discussing how these novels relate to the topics of other pieces of literature used in AP English, and we will discuss common themes and literary criticisms. Each student will submit a Long Form Literary Analysis for each of the novels (students can find the form as a Word Document on my website). I will collect the logs as follows:

* *A Prayer for Owen Meany* on September 14, 2017
* *Native Son* on September 28, 2017
* Our discussions on the texts will occur shortly after

Furthermore, students will be asked to use the supplemental novels during essay writing throughout the academic year. For this reason, in the past, our students have found it helpful to obtain/borrow a personal copy of the novels when they are in use. E-books are an excellent option.

As you can see, there is a significant amount of reading and critical response in regard to the supplemental literature and you will find a substantial amount of reading with the required literature listed on the AP English syllabus. Time management and dedication are essential when undertaking this course. I look forward to a rewarding and satisfying year studying literature.

Sincerely yours,

Mary Mason

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