

# English II Pre-Advanced Placement (AP) Summer Reading

## Summit Christian Academy

Our Pre-AP English class is designed to prepare students for the demands of the eleventh and twelfth grade college-level Advanced Placement courses. The Advanced Placement Program® Course Description and Teacher's Guide published by The College Board describes a suitable candidate for Advanced Placement English as follows: "Academically talented, imaginative students who read with finesse and write with clarity and style, who are curious and responsive to academic risk-taking, and who are not deterred by hard work."

Please note that Pre-AP English II at Summit Christian Academy has a summer reading requirement consisting of both a whole-class novel with a connected assignment and the independent reading of a self-selected text. We naturally encourage you to be voracious readers, so read as many books as you'd like.

### **Required Reading and Assignment: The Pearl by John Steinbeck**

All students who sign up for English II Pre-Advanced Placement (Pre-AP) are required to read and annotate *The Pearl* by John Steinbeck over the summer. The annotations of *The Pearl* are imperative for assignments in the first quarter of the school year.

Annotations may include but are limited to: summarizing plot, character analysis, comments, questions, unfamiliar word definitions, themes, and motifs written in the margins of the pages.

### **Directions: You must complete the following components.**

1. Read *The Pearl*, a novella by John Steinbeck.
2. Annotate the entire novel in a manner that enhances your understanding. You are encouraged to notice the following:
  - a. Plot structure and development
    - i. Conflicts, internal and external
    - ii. Foreshadowing, etc.
  - b. Setting
  - c. Point of View
  - d. Tone
  - e. Characterization (direct and indirect)
  - f. Devices
    - i. Imagery
    - ii. Figurative language (simile, metaphor, etc.)
    - iii. Motifs
    - iv. Symbols
    - v. Word choice (diction)
    - vi. Sentence structure (syntax)
  - g. Theme
3. You will also be expected to write an analysis of a thematic idea in the novel in the first quarter of the school year.

### **Summer Reading Self-Selected Book**

Since we read for a variety of reasons, you should choose another book to read this summer both for your own enjoyment and to challenge your normal reading habits (try a new genre, read a more challenging text, commit to a new author, etc.). In addition, English II Pre-AP students will begin their fall independent reading after Labor Day.

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To assist you in your search for both a summer reading self-selected novel as well as the novel you intend to read beginning in September, here is a list of recommended titles. You may read either a fiction or non-fiction text. As is always the case with your text selections, consider your own individual interests, as well as what feels like a comfortable stretch to you as you read independently. Please also keep your personal and family values in mind as you choose a title.

[Here](#) is a list of book choice resources to help you with your search.

We will read the following texts in class this year (either in literature circles or as a whole class). You may not choose these for your ISR, either over the summer or once we begin classes in the fall.

- *Animal Farm*
- *Of Mice and Men*
- *Fahrenheit 451*
- *Macbeth*

Please finish reading your self-selected book by the first day of school and be prepared to start a new independent reading book after Labor Day.

### **For students enrolled after July 31, 2020:**

You will be expected to complete the reading and assignment over *The Pearl* by John Steinbeck after enrollment. You will have the first nine weeks of the school year to complete this assignment. You will begin independent reading in the second quarter.