

AP Language Summer Reading List and Questions

1. *Inherit the Wind*, Lawrence and Lee (PLAY)
2. "The Chase" by Annie Dillard (Essay)
3. "Shooting an Elephant" by George Orwell (Essay)
4. "A Modest Proposal" by Jonathan Swift (Essay)
5. "Indian Education" by Sherman Alexie (Essay)
6. "What is Patriotism?" by Emma Goldman (Speech)
7. "Statement on Articles of Impeachment" by Barbara Jordan (Speech)

NOTE: EVERYTHING ON THIS LIST MAY BE FOUND ONLINE. LINKS ARE PROVIDED. SHOULD THE LINK NOT WORK, SIMPLY GOOGLE AND THE TEXT CAN BE FOUND ON ANOTHER SITE.

ALL ASSIGNMENTS MUST BE TYPED WITH THE WORD COUNT PROVIDED AT THE END OF EACH ASSIGNMENT. ALL WORK IS DUE ON THURSDAY, AUGUST 10TH. THIS IS A HUGE GRADE FOR THE FIRST QUARTER.

For *Inherit the Wind*:

1. Discuss the quote that Matt Brady uses at the prayer meeting (Proverbs: 12:29) "He that troubleth his own house shall inherit the wind." What does this quote mean, how does it relate to the main themes of the play? Why is it such an important quote that it was chosen as the title of the play. (200 wds)
2. Cates said "religion is supposed to comfort people, not frighten them to death." React to this statement (agree, disagree) and discuss what this quote means. (200 wds)
3. List what religious philosophies each of the six major characters (Bert Cates, Henry Drummond, Brady, Rachel, Rev. Brown, Hornbeck) believe in. (Are they agnostic, atheist, or fundamentalist - be sure to include definitions of each of these beliefs) Be sure to support your answers - some character's beliefs are harder to figure out than others. (500 wds)

Annie Dillard, "The Chase"

Dillard's narration of the chase is only six paragraphs long (pars. 10-15), but it seems longer. What techniques does Dillard use in these paragraphs to hold our attention and re-create the breathlessness of the chase? Look at concrete details, repetition, and parallelism. Answer in a short essay of at least 300 words. Use at three short quotes from the essay.

George Orwell, "Shooting an Elephant"

Orwell acknowledges his mistakes as a government official. Does Orwell remain just as guilty as he would have been if he had not taken responsibility for his actions? Why or why not? Use examples from Orwell's essay and from your own life to support your answer. (300 wds)

Jonathan Swift, “A Modest Proposal”

1. At what point in the essay did it become clear to you that the proposal isn't modest but horrible? (Quote the line or paragraph number.)
2. Comment on the statement, “I can think of no one objection that will possibly be raised against this proposal.” What objections can you think of?
3. Swift appeals to both reason and emotion in this essay. Give an example of each.
(Answer each question in complete sentences. All three questions can be answered in about 200 words.)

Sherman Alexie, “Indian Education”

Alexie is well known for injecting humor, sometimes very dark humor, into tales that might otherwise be unbelievably bleak. Write a short essay analyzing Alexie's use of humor in this essay. What does he poke fun at? How effective is his humor? (300 wds)

Emma Goldman's speech, “What is Patriotism?”

Barbara Jordan's “Articles of Impeachment”

1. Do you agree or disagree with Goldman's argument that patriotism is based more on arrogance than on logic? Make sure to quote from Goldman's work in your essay, although you may also rely on your own personal experiences and knowledge.
2. Historians rank Ms Jordan' speech as of the best orations in 20th century American history and also as a key reason that led to President Nixon's resignation. Where in the speech does she imply that Nixon should be impeached? Where does she refer to the Constitution and to our checks and balances system? What is the most memorable sentence for you? (About 300 wds for both questions)