



AP Literature and Composition | Summer Reading | 2020

Congratulations! You have signed up for senior AP literature and composition, which means you enjoy reading, and you appreciate classic literature. We will be reading and reacting to a wide variety of literature throughout the year, including novels, plays, nonfiction, and poems.

An important aspect of AP lit and comp is having a deep knowledge of several different major literary works, which is why I am asking you to read two novellas before the opening day of school:

1. *My Antonia* by Willa Cather
2. *Anthem* by Ayn Rand

Both books are very different, and I hope you can find something interesting about each story. *My Antonia* is a story about early pioneers trying to survive and thrive on the western plains of the United States in the 19th century, while *Anthem* is a dystopian novella set in the future. This is the first time I am offering *Anthem* in AP lit, so you can let me know what you think on the first day of school. I would prefer that you find paper copies of both of these books and that you bring them with you to class at the beginning of the school year. Amazon.com does have some paperback versions of both titles available, although they are not very high quality. Barnes and Noble may be a better choice if you are ordering the books online. However, if you choose to purchase them as e-books that is okay, as long as you have access to them in class.

I would like you to complete three dialectical journal entries for each book (six total entries between the two books), focusing on the first entries on the opening chapters of the book, the second entry on the middle chapters, and the third entry on the closing chapters. To complete these journals, you will create two columns. In the left column, write key passages or quotes from the text (also make note of the page number and chapter from which each passage comes). In the right column, give a full explanation of what is “key” or interesting about each passage. Do not merely summarize the passage or simply describe what is happening in the story. Explain why specific details in the passages are significant, and describe how you are personally reacting to the story’s themes. I would like these journals to be hand-written and turned in on the first day of class.

If you have any questions about the summer reading assignment or the class in general, feel free to e-mail me at friedlinerick@lakelocal.org.

Have a great summer. See you in August.

Mr. Friedline