

Honors American Literature Reading List
2019-2020

Required Readings:

Lee, Harper

To Kill a Mockingbird

Glaspell, Susan

Trifles

Suggested Readings:

Cooper, James Fenimore

Last of the Mohicans

Hawthorne, Nathaniel

The Scarlet Letter

James, Henry

Portrait of a Lady

Faulkner, William

Light in August

The Sound and the Fury

Hemingway, Ernest

For Whom the Bell Tolls

A Farewell to Arms

Lewis, Sinclair

Babbitt

Main Street

Cather, Willa

My Antonia

John Steinbeck

The Grapes of Wrath

McCullers, Carson

A Member of the Wedding

The Heart Is a Lonely Hunter

Wharton, Edith

Ethan Frome

Arnold, Harriette

The Dollmaker

Melville, Herman

Moby Dick

London, Jack

White Fang

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| Richter, Conrad | <i>The Trees</i> |
| | <i>The Fields</i> |
| | <i>The Town</i> |
| Herbert, Frank | <i>Dune</i> |
| Warren, Robert Penn | <i>All the King's Men</i> |
| Kantor, McKinley | <i>Andersonville</i> |
| Agee, James | <i>A Death in the Family</i> |
| Fitzgerald, F. Scott | <i>Tender Is the Night</i> |
| Tan, Amy | <i>The Joy Luck Club</i> |
| Hersey, John | <i>A Bell for Adano</i> |
| Michener, James | <i>Hawaii</i> |

The essay (on *To Kill a Mockingbird*) and the test (on *Trifles*) for the two required readings are the assignments for the first day of school. There are no acceptable excuses for late work. Manage your time and do not wait until the last minute. I do not want to hear that your printer would not work or that your printer ran out of ink or that you do not have a computer and, therefore, had to wait for your best friend to finish his/her report before you could type yours.

The essay and any succeeding reports during the year are to be typed in Times New Roman 12. After the summer essay is graded and returned, all successive writing assignments will be placed in the same folder and will be turned in at the end of the school year. If you would like to keep a personal copy, please be sure to save to a flash drive.

Remember that the two required assignments are due on the first day of school. There are no acceptable excuses for late work, for you have over two months to complete the assignments. If you are not ready to take the test or do not have the essay the first day, be prepared to be placed in the Survey of American Literature class.

Essay Requirements: at least five paragraphs (including an introduction and a conclusion) of at least five sentences each.

To Kill a Mockingbird Essay Topic: Much emphasis has been placed upon the intellectual and emotional growth which Scout achieves in this novel, but she is not the only character to grow into a new awareness of Maycomb's social milieu. Identify other characters in the novel whose

eyes and minds become more fully opened. Discuss the lessons they learn and the validity of these lessons for their later lives.

The test the first day of school will be on *Trifles*.

Novel Report Form (to be used during the school year)

1. Authorial Background (include reasons for writing the book)
2. Literary Period (refer to other writers of the same period; how does the author relate? Is the author typical or atypical of the period?)
3. Setting (Is the setting significant? How? Is it merely a backdrop for the action? Why?)
4. Character (Describe and analyze using literary terms: direct/indirect characterization, external conflict, internal conflict, static, round, stereotypical)
5. Theme (Use examples from the novel to demonstrate how the theme is evident through the plot and characters.)
6. Unique Literary Devices Used (symbolism, allusions, flashbacks, epiphany, motif, etc.)

The report and essays are to be written in paragraph form. **Research is required** for numbers 1,2, & 6 above. MLA format and research necessitate the inclusion of in-text citations and a Works Cited page. MLA style is required. All reports are to be turned in a folder, and each subsequent report, placed on top of the others and turned in together. All papers, essays, and research papers are to be turned in at the end of the year.

Please give yourself a July or second week in August deadline and stick to it. You won't feel so pressured, and you will more than likely do a better job on the assignment.