

Honors American Literature Reading List
2020-2021

Required Readings:

James, Henry	<i>Washington Square</i>
Glaspell, Susan	<i>Trifles</i>

Suggested Readings:

Cooper, James Fenimore	<i>Last of the Mohicans</i>
Hawthorne, Nathaniel	<i>The Scarlet Letter</i>
James, Henry	<i>Portrait of a Lady</i>
Faulkner, William	<i>Light in August</i>
	<i>The Sound and the Fury</i>
Hemingway, Ernest	<i>For Whom the Bell Tolls</i>
	<i>A Farewell to Arms</i>
Lewis, Sinclair	<i>Babbitt</i>
	<i>Main Street</i>
Cather, Willa	<i>My Antonia</i>
John Steinbeck	<i>The Grapes of Wrath</i>
McCullers, Carson	<i>A Member of the Wedding</i>
	<i>The Heart Is a Lonely Hunter</i>
Wharton, Edith	<i>Ethan Frome</i>
Arnold, Harriette	<i>The Dollmaker</i>
Melville, Herman	<i>Moby Dick</i>
London, Jack	<i>White Fang</i>
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>
Lee, Harper	<i>To Kill a Mockingbird</i>

The essay and the test 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.

Essay Topic: Describe your impression of Catherine Sloper at the beginning of *Washington Square*. In what ways did this impression change by the time you reached the end of the novel? To what extent do you attribute this to Catherine's having changed in the course of the novel? To your knowing her better? To her knowing herself better? Be sure and use third person and not first person.

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.