



Calvary Christian High School

AP English Literature and Composition Summer Assignment English Department

Summer learning loss is a well-documented and frequently researched phenomenon that affects students of all grade levels and aptitudes. The best studies find that students lose on average a month, and up to three months in some cases, of grade-level instruction over the summer break.¹ This same research shows that the amount of loss can increase with grade level. Therefore, the English Department of CCHS encourages students to participate in summer reading. Reading from the list below is designed to help students overcome summer learning loss and to prepare them for the upcoming year of academic growth. Both students and their parents are encouraged to take summer reading seriously and complete the reading assignment as instructed on the following page. This assignment applies to ALL students taking AP English Literature and Composition.

Sincerely,
English Department
Calvary Christian High School

¹ Cooper, Harris, et al. "The Effects of Summer Vacation on Achievement Test Scores: A Narrative and Meta-Analytic Review." *Review of Educational Research*, vol. 66, no. 3, 1996, pp. 227–268. JSTOR, www.jstor.org/stable/1170523.

Instructions

The AP Literature and Composition summer assignment has two parts. All parts are due **Monday of the second week of school**. The writing portions of the assignment will be evaluated using the expectations below, which all incoming AP Literature students should be able to display clearly. Your writing will be up to 5% of your first quarter grade; it is also an opportunity for your teacher to offer feedback on these essential components so that you can begin the year successfully.

Expectations:

- An insightful thesis statement
- Effective paragraph structure that includes textual support
- Textual support is effectively integrated into the flow of the paragraphs
- Varied and effective diction and syntax
- Transition words and phrases used appropriately
- No errors in grammar or punctuation
- No use of 1st or 2nd person pronouns
- No use of contractions
- Correct MLA Format

Part 1

Carefully read *The Kite Runner* by Khaled Hosseini. You may obtain and read the book in any format comfortable to you. After carefully reading the selected book, compose a typed, 500-600 word essay that responds to the following prompt:

In a literary work, a minor character, often known as a foil, possesses traits that emphasize, by contrast or comparison, the distinctive characteristics and qualities of the main character. For example, the ideas or behavior of the minor character might be used to highlight the weaknesses or strengths of the main character. Choose a

minor character who serves as a foil to a main character in *The Kite Runner*. Then write an essay in which you analyze how the relationship between the minor character and the major character illuminates the meaning of the work as a whole.

Part 2

Carefully read *A Raisin in the Sun* by Lorraine Hansberry. You may obtain and read the book in any format comfortable to you.. After carefully reading the selected book, compose a 500-600 word essay that responds to the following prompt:

A bildungsroman, or coming-of-age novel, recounts the psychological or moral development of its protagonist from youth to maturity, when this character recognizes his or her place in the world. Select a single pivotal moment in the psychological or moral development of the protagonist in *A Raisin in the Sun*. Then write a well-organized essay that analyzes how that single moment shapes the meaning of the work as a whole.