



LVS AP[®] Academy
AP[®] English Literature & Composition
Summer Reading List

Below, you will find **three** separate lists of books. Most of these books are available at public and school libraries, or you may choose to buy your own copies so that you can write in the books as you read. Choose **ONE book from each list** to read this summer, preferably ones you have not read before.

For each of the three books you select, keep detailed **notes** as you read, making a record of the **plot** (what happens chapter-by-chapter or section-by-section), the **characters** (who is involved with a brief description), the **setting** (where it takes place), and any important or **interesting passages**. You may also want to jot down **questions** you have while you are reading, as we can discuss these at the beginning of class. You have plenty of time to read these books, so pace yourself and enjoy reading over the summer rather than rushing through them at the end of the summer.

Check out a summary of the works' major themes or send me an email with questions to decide which of the books you might most enjoy reading. Some of the books include mature material (violence, sex, drug use, offensive language), so if you, your parent(s) or guardian(s), or your school would prefer to avoid these texts, contact me or your facilitator to assist you with appropriate choices.

If you would like to read more than **three** books, you should feel free to use this list to guide you, as it is comprised of some of the most cited books from past AP exams—I will read about 15 novels and several critical books this summer, but, of course, I am an English teacher. ☺

List One: Choose **one** of the following ten **Classics**:

- The Aeneid* by Virgil (29-19 B.C., Roman epic poem)
- Antigone* by Sophocles (441 B.C., Greek play)
- The Divine Comedy* by Dante Alighieri (1308-1321, Italian epic poem)
- Don Quixote* by Miguel de Cervantes (1605, Spanish Novel)
- The Eumenides* by Aeschylus (458 B.C., Greek play)
- The Iliad* by Homer (700-600 B.C., Greek epic poem)
- Lysistrata* by Aristophanes (411 B.C., Greek play)
- Medea* by Euripides (431 B.C., Greek play)
- The Odyssey* by Homer (700-600 B., Greek epic poem)
- Oedipus Rex* by Sophocles (428 B.C., Greek play)

List Two: Choose **one** of the following **Pre-20th Century** texts:

- The American* by Henry James (1877, American)
- Anna Karenina* by Leo Tolstoy (1877, Russian)
- Benito Cereno* by Herman Melville (1855, American)
- Billy Budd* by Herman Melville (1886-1924, American)
- The Brothers Karamazov* by Fyodor Dostoevsky (1880, Russian)
- Candide* by Voltaire (1759, French)
- Crime and Punishment* by Fyodor Dostoevsky (1866, Russian)
- Emma* by Jane Austen (1816, British)
- Fathers and Sons* by Ivan Turgenev (1862, Russian)
- Faust* by Johann Wolfgang von Goethe (1828-9, German play)
- Frankenstein* by Mary Shelley (1818, British)
- Heart of Darkness* by Joseph Conrad (1899, Polish/British)
- The House of Seven Gables* by Nathaniel Hawthorne (1851, American)
- The Last of the Mohicans* by James Fenimore Cooper (1826, American)
- Madame Bovary* by Gustave Flaubert (1856, French)



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List Two: Choose **one** of the following **Pre-20th Century** texts - Continued:

Mansfield Park by Jane Austen (1814, British)
Moby Dick by Herman Melville (1851, American)
Notes from the Underground by Fyodor Dostoevsky (1864, Russian)
Persuasion by Jane Austen (1813, British)
Portrait of a Lady by Henry James (1881, American)
Pride and Prejudice by Jane Austen (1813, British)
Uncle Tom's Cabin by Harriet Beecher Stowe (1851, American)
Washington Square by Henry James (1880, American)

List Three: Choose **one** of the following **20th Century** texts:

Alias Grace by Margaret Atwood (1996, Canadian)
Autobiography of an Ex-Colored Man by James Weldon Johnson (1912/1927, American)
Beloved by Toni Morrison (1987, American)
Bless Me, Ultima by Rudolfo Anaya (1972, American)
The Bluest Eye by Toni Morrison (1970, American)
Brave New World by Aldous Huxley (1932, British)
Catch-22 by Joseph Heller (1961, American)
The Catcher in the Rye by J. D. Salinger (1951, American)
Ceremony by Leslie Marmon Silko (1988, American)
The Color Purple by Alice Walker (1982, American)
Cry, The Beloved Country by Alan Paton (1946, South African)
Delta Wedding by Eudora Welty (1946, American)
Go Tell It on the Mountain by James Baldwin (1953, American)
The Handmaid's Tale by Margaret Atwood (1985, Canadian)
House Made of Dawn by N. Scott Momaday (1969, American)
Invisible Man by Ralph Ellison (1953, American)
The Joy Luck Club (1989, American)
A Lesson before Dying by Ernest Gaines (1993, American)
Native Son by Richard Wright (1940, American)
1984 by George Orwell (1949, British)
Obasan by Joy Kogawa (1981, Canadian)
One Hundred Years of Solitude by Gabriel Garcia Marquez (1967, Columbian)
Pale Fire by Vladimir Nabokov (1962, Russian/American)
The Remains of the Day by Kazuo Ishiguro (1989, Japanese/British)
A Room of One's Own by Virginia Woolf (1929, British)
A Separate Peace by John Knowles (1959, American)
Slaughterhouse Five by Kurt Vonnegut (1969, American)
The Stranger by Albert Camus (1942, French)
Things Fall Apart by Chinua Achebe (1958, Nigerian)
The Trial by Franz Kafka (1925, Czech/Austrian)