

English III AP Summer Reading Assignments

Welcome to the Class of 2016!

We look forward to meeting each of you in August! Your junior year promises to be a challenging, rigorous, AND fun year in English III AP. The summer reading books for you are **A Farewell to Arms by Ernest Hemingway and Fast Food Nation by Eric Schlosser**. You may get the books from a variety of places: Half-Price Books, Barnes & Noble, amazon.com, etc. Make the books your own by annotating using the skills you have learned during your sophomore year.

A Farewell to Arms

Choose one of the following prompts from the AP Literature and Composition Exam. Write a 750 to 1200 word response to the prompt in the form of a well-organized essay. You should provide substantial textual support for your claims by including direct quotations from the novel and in-text citations. Do NOT reference any outside source. We are interested in your own interpretations and ideas. This essay is due at the end of the first week of school. Type your essay using MLA formatting. Don't procrastinate!

1. In *The Writing of Fiction* (1925), novelist Edith Wharton states the following: "At every stage in the progress of his tale the novelist must rely on what may be called the illuminating incident to reveal and emphasize the inner meaning of each situation. Illuminating incidents are the magic casements of fiction, its vistas on infinity."

Using *A Farewell to Arms* write a well-organized essay in which you describe an "illuminating" episode or moment and explain how it functions as a "casement," a window that opens onto the meaning of the work as a whole. Avoid mere plot summary.

2. A symbol is an object, action, or event that represents something or that creates a range of associations beyond itself. In literary works a symbol can express an idea, clarify meaning, or enlarge literal meaning.

Using *A Farewell to Arms*, focus on one symbol and write an essay analyzing how that symbol functions in the work and what it reveals about the characters or themes of the work as a whole. Do not merely summarize the plot.

Fast Food Nation

Keep a chapter by chapter journal of your reflections while you read this book. The introduction, epilogue, and afterword are part of the book and should be included in your reflection. Create a format to follow for this journal. It needs to be consistent throughout with detailed elaboration. The finished journal must be typed and is also due the first week of school. The following should be included in your reading journal:

1. Reflections, summaries of each chapter. As you reflect you will obviously mention specific ideas, evidence from the book, so we will know that you have read.
2. A provocative quote from each chapter that summarizes the main points of the chapter.
3. A discussion of your recent fast food meals in relation to Eric Schlosser's work.