

May 21, 2012

Dear Parents and Students:

McFarland High School proudly offers Advanced Placement (AP) and Honors level courses that are rigorous and will ensure that students are prepared to meet the expectations of both high school and college requirements in reading and writing. In order to continue your academic development over the summer, you are required to read the following books before the start of the 2012-2013 school year. A summer reading requirement should be completed by ALL students entering the following courses: English 9 Honors, English 10 Honors, AP Language and Composition (11), and AP Literature and Composition (12).

Reading Assignments:

Course	Titles/ Author	Assignment
English 9 Honors	1. <i>The Odyssey</i> , Homer 2. <i>Heroes, Gods, and Monsters of the Greek Myths</i> , Bernard Evslin *For full texts, you can download <i>The Odyssey</i> from the Internet at pd.sparknotes.com/lit/odyssey	A test upon return to school.
English 10 Honors	1. <i>The House of Spirits</i> , Isabel Allende 2. Any ONE novel, to be selected by student, from the 10 th grade reading list, available from Miss Nugent (Room 17) or the MHS English Department web page.	A writing assignment for each novel, due upon return to school. See MHS English Department web page for details.
AP Language (11)	1. <i>East of Eden</i> , John Steinbeck 2. <i>The Great Gatsby</i> , F. Scott Fitzgerald 3. Film (<i>The Crucible</i>)	A test upon return to school.
AP Literature (12)	1. <i>The Merchant of Venice</i> , William Shakespeare 2. <i>Hamlet</i> , William Shakespeare 3. <i>Sophie's World</i> , Jostein Gaardner	A test upon return to school.

* All Shakespeare texts can be downloaded from pd.sparknotes.com/Shakespeare. Copies of the texts may be purchased new or used online from several different sites such as amazon.com. Used books can be very inexpensive. There are also copies of the texts available from Mrs. Rowland (9 Honors and AP Literature/Room 25), Miss Matthews (AP Language/Room 23), and Miss Nugent (10 Honors/Room 17). Once classes end for

the summer, books can be picked up in the front office. Many of the selections on the 10th grade list are available in the library. These will need to be checked out before the end of the school year, as the library may be closed for the summer. Some of the titles have been ordered since there are not enough copies for every student, and you will need to check back with the office. Books should be in by the end of June at the latest.

Have a wonderful summer!

Happy Reading,

MHS Language Arts Department