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MR. LONGO: <http://www.stmarycss.ca/parents/teachers/longo/>

SUMMER READING PACKAGE: <http://stmary.dcdsb.ca/index.php/faculty/english-and-modern-languages>



GRADE NINE ADVANCED PLACEMENT ENGLISH

SUMMER READING PACKAGE

Advanced Placement (AP) English is a university preparation program that may, upon success in the AP exam, translate to university credits. It is our goal that each AP student will be prepared to take the AP English examination at the end of his/her Grade 12 year.

To prepare for the exam, students will be exposed to a diverse collection of literature through summer reading. In Grade 9, students will examine Canadian Literature; in Grade 10, American Literature; in Grade 11, students cover British Literature, and; lastly, in Grade 12 students examine Classical and Modern Literature.

This is a list of recommended books to read this summer to prepare for your course. The assigned work should be submitted on the first day of classes in September (for both Semester 1 and 2 students). All summer work will be assessed and not evaluated by the AP teachers.

Summer Reading

1. *Hunger Games* by Suzanne Collins. This is a *required* reading for this course.
 - a) Core Reading Assignment: Answer all chapter questions included in this package in full sentences.

You are encouraged to purchase your own book. However, as it is a required reading you may borrow the book from the school. If you choose to borrow, parent or student may pick-up the novel with a deposit cheque. Here are the details:

Pick-up Dates & Times:

- June 20th: 8:30am – 3:00p.m.
- June 22nd: 12:00pm – 3:00p.m.
- June 23rd: 12:00p.m. – 3:00p.m.

Pick-up Location

- Room 107 (Mr. Longo's classroom)

Deposit Cheque

- \$30.00 payable to St. Mary C.S.S.

Book Return

- On or before first day of school in September to Mr. Longo in Room 107

2. Read one (1) of the following five books:

- 1) *Fifth Business* by Robertson Davies
- 2) *Two Solitudes* by Hugh MacLennan
- 3) *The Apprenticeship of Duddy Kravitz* by Mordecai Richler
- 4) *Handmaid's Tale* by Margaret Atwood
- 5) *Who Has Seen the Wind* by W.O. Mitchell

a) Assignment: After reading your selected book, answer one (1) of the following questions. Your responses must be 2-3 typed pages in length and double-spaced response.

- Option 1: In literature, **theme** is a broad idea in a story, or message or lesson conveyed by a work. This message is usually about life, society or human nature. Themes explore timeless and universal ideas. Most themes are implied rather than explicitly stated. The reader often discovers that the first chapter of a novel introduces some of the major themes of the work. **Write a response about the first chapter of a novel in which you explain how it function in this way.**
- Option 2: An effective literary work does not merely stop or cease; it concludes. In the views of some critics, a work that does not provide the pleasure of significant closure has terminated with an artistic fault. A satisfactory ending is not, however, always conclusive in every sense; significant closure may require the reader to abide with or adjust to ambiguity and uncertainty. **Write a response about the ending of the novel. Explain precisely how and why the ending appropriately or inappropriately concludes the work. Do not merely summarize the plot.**
- Extension Assignment: It is recommended that students aim to read all five books on the list by the end of the academic year.

Happy Reading! We look forward to seeing you in September!

Best,

Mr. J. Longo

Chair, Department of English & Modern Languages

Grade 9 AP Teacher

Mr. M. O'Brien

Principal, St. Mary C.S.S.