

AP ENGLISH LANGUAGE AND COMPOSITION

Google Classroom Code: [esmaifm](#)

The Adventures of Huckleberry Finn Summer Reading Requirement

The purpose of summer reading in AP English Language and Composition is to prepare students for the level of reading, writing, and thinking that is the hallmark of this course. The book selected for this year's summer reading is as follows:

Twain, Mark. *Adventures of Huckleberry Finn: An Authoritative Text Contexts and Sources Criticism*. 3rd edition. Ed. Thomas Cooley. New York: W. W. Norton, 1999. [ISBN 0-393-96640-2]

Note: This Norton Critical Edition also contains historical documents, contemporary perspectives and critical theories, a bibliography, and a chronology of the author's life and work. You **do not** need to read this additional material prior to the first day of class. However, it is very important that you purchase this particular edition.

Assignment: Your task is to complete the following before the 1st day of the Fall 2020 semester:

1. Read pages 13-296, which contain the text of the novel, and annotate the text identifying at least 3 excerpts that could support and 1 excerpt that could refute each of the following claims:
 - a. The character of Huck Finn is an archetype of 'the boy becoming a man' theme prevalent in literature.
 - b. Jim's role in the novel represents a paternal figure, who is needed for Huck Finn to complete his maturation.
 - c. The novel *Adventures of Huckleberry Finn* is an attempt to admonish its audience of the dangers of Romantic ideals and beliefs.
 - d. Mark Twain's novel is a great example of satirical writing that presents characters who pretend to value virtue but condone just the opposite.
 - e. Mark Twain, because of his masterful use of literary techniques (plot, characterization, symbols, conflict, point of view, dialogue, etc.), is deserving of the title "Great American Author".
2. Use the provided "Hold Your Thinking" graphic organizer (found on the Google Classroom Assignment) to organize your annotations. This graphic organizer should be turned in before the 1st day of class next fall.
 - a. Beginning on the first day of class next fall, each student will use this thinking to demonstrate their understanding of the novel by taking a comprehensive exam of the text, composing convincing arguments concerning the novel, and participating in Socratic Seminar discussions.

****All work is to be done individually. You live in the 21st century. The 21st century gives us Google History. Google History allows us to catch cheaters. Cheaters will be subject to the same treatment as Jonathan Swift's proposed treatment of impoverished, Irish youth.**