

George Jenkins High School

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Dear 2018-2019 A.P. Language and Composition Students,

We look forward to working with you and diving deeper into the English Language. The A.P. English Language and Composition course will focus on rhetorical devices, in-depth literary analysis, fiction, non-fiction, grammar, A.P. Exam practice, current issues, and an abundance of writing.

Your summer reading will be *Of Mice and Men* by John Steinbeck.

A mini-description of *Of Mice and Men*:

Of Mice and Men, a novella, was published in 1937. It tells the story of George Milton and Lennie Small, two migrant ranch workers, who move from place to place in California in search of new job opportunities during the Great Depression in the United States, with hopes of fulfilling their dream of owning their own land.

There are 2 parts to your Summer Reading Assignment.

1. Read *Of Mice and Men* and answer **FOUR** of the accompanying questions (attached).
 - a. Each of your chosen questions must be answered thoroughly and thoughtfully with specific evidence (quotations) from the text. Each response should be multiple sentences (unacceptably brief responses will receive no credit), and submissions that do not include quotations in every response will not receive a grade of "A."
 - b. Responses must be in your own words (all references to other sources, including the text, must be cited appropriately). This is an individual assignment. Your answers should **NOT** exactly match another student. Any work that is plagiarized (stealing the ideas or words of another) will result in a **ZERO** on this assignment for all students involved.
 - c. This is your first chance to show me your best writing. There should be **no** spelling or grammatical mistakes on your paper. This is the place for formal diction (no slang—I am old and won't understand what you are saying). This should be final-draft quality. Papers must be typed in a size 12 easy-to-read font (ex. Times New Roman). If you do not have a computer, go to a friend's house or the public library.
2. Create flashcards for the attached list of important terms to know for AP Lang. Write the term on one side of the card and the definition on the other side of the card. Please use index cards that are big enough for you to add examples of each device (we will be adding these throughout the year). Please **handwrite** these (there is knowledge to be gained therein) as opposed to cutting and pasting/typing.

This assignment will be due no later than **Friday, August 31** (We will happily take it before then).

This will be a highly rigorous course, but we will have fun tackling the content together. Feel free to email either one of us with any questions you have about the assignment. Have a wonderful summer!

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Summer Reading Assignment – Part 1 – *Of Mice and Men*

1. As you read, create a list of the events that foreshadow the dangers approaching George and Lennie. What do you believe is the effect that the foreshadowing on the reader's interpretation of events? Explain your reasoning.
2. Show how John Steinbeck explores the complex relationship between George and Lennie. Include: What keeps them together and the difficulties they each have. How they are different from other people on the farm?
3. Steinbeck's novel makes the world seem like a cruel place where dreams crumble. Write a response that discusses three of the characters' experiences with this theme.
4. Animal imagery is used throughout the novel to characterize certain people. Trace the appearance of the imagery and what it comes to symbolize.
5. Discuss how the ranch can be seen as a microcosm of the United States. How is George and Lennie's dream representative of the dreams of the migrant worker?
6. Explain Steinbeck's purpose in including women and African-Americans in the novel. What functions do these characters serve?
7. Many characters in Steinbeck's novel *Of Mice and Men* are plagued by loneliness and alienation and are searching for friendship and acceptance. Write a response that explains how this applies to three characters.

Summer Reading Assignment – Part 2 – Flashcards

Directions: Create 4x6 flashcards for each of the terms and definitions listed. These terms will be utilized throughout the duration of the school year and are an important component of the AP exam. Leave enough room on each card to cite examples in the future. You must handwrite these (no cutting and pasting typed text).

1. rhetorical question: a question asked solely to produce an effect and not to elicit a reply
2. refutation: when a writer delivers relevant opposing arguments
3. allegory: a narrative in which character, action, and setting represent abstract concepts apart from the literal meaning of a story - the underlying meaning usually has a moral, social, religious, or political significance
4. metonymy: the substitution of a term naming an object closely associated with the word in mind for the word itself
5. qualifier: a statement that indicates the force of the argument
6. declarative sentence: makes a statement (sentence type)
7. interrogative sentence: asks a question (sentence type)
8. imperative sentence: gives a command (sentence type)
9. exclamatory sentence: makes an interjection (Sentence type)
10. thesis: the central claim and overall purpose of a work
11. bias: a predisposition or subjective opinion
12. anecdote: a short account of an interesting or humorous incident, intended to illustrate or support a point

13. analogy: a comparison to a directly parallel case; the process of drawing a comparison between two things based on a partial similarity of like features
14. idiom: an expression that means something other than the literal meanings of its individual words
15. tone: the voice and attitude the writer has chosen to project
16. mood: the overall atmosphere of a work and the mood is how that atmosphere makes a reader feel
17. antithesis: a contrast in language to bring out a contrast in ideas
18. allusion: a brief reference to a person, event, or place - real or fictitious - or to a work of art
19. juxtaposition: placing two ideas side by side or close together
20. anticipating audience response: the rhetorical technique of anticipating counterarguments and offering a refutation
21. euphemism: substitutions of an inoffensive, indirect, or agreeable expression for a word or phrase perceived as socially unacceptable or harsh
22. paradox: a phrase or statement that while seeming contradictory or absurd may actually be well founded or true. Used to attract attention or to secure emphasis
23. cliché: a timeworn expression that through overuse has lost its power to evoke concrete images
24. irony: the discrepancy between appearance and reality: verbal, situational, dramatic, and Socratic
25. oxymoron: a self-contradictory combination of words
26. logos: appealing to logical reasoning and sound evidence
27. ethos: appealing to the audience's shared values
28. pathos: evoking and manipulating emotions
29. aphorism: a concise or tersely phrased statement in principle, truth, or opinion. Often found in fields like law, politics, and art
30. deductive reasoning: method of reasoning that moves from a general premise to a specific conclusion
31. inductive reasoning: method of reasoning that moves from specific evidence to a general conclusion based on this evidence
32. diction: choice of words in a work and an important element of style
33. abstract language: language describing ideas and qualities
34. concrete language: language describing observable, specific things
35. colloquialism: words characteristic to familiar conversation
36. denotation: specific, exact meaning of a word as defined
37. connotation: The emotional implications that a word may carry
38. polysyndeton: repetition of conjunctions in close succession
39. synecdoche: part is used for a whole or the whole for a part
40. satire: genre of writing used to critique or ridicule through humor or sarcasm
41. syntax: how a sentence is constructed
42. simple sentence: a complete sentence that is neither compound, nor complex. (1 subject, 1 predicate)
43. compound sentence: a sentence that contains 2 independent clauses joined by a coordinating conjunction
44. complex sentence: an independent clause joined by one or more dependent clauses
45. antecedent: the word to which a pronoun refers
46. parallelism: when the arrangement of parts of a sentence is similarly phrased or constructed
47. loose sentence: when a sentence is grammatically complete before its end

48. periodic sentence: when a sentence is not grammatically complete before its end
49. anaphora: the same expression is repeated at the beginning of 2 or more consecutive lines
50. chiasmus: second half of an expression is balanced against the first, but with the parts reversed