

# Advanced Placement in Literature and Composition

## Summer Reading 2018 Cicero-North Syracuse High School

1) Students enrolled in the AP English literature class are required to read two books this summer.

- Select any *two* novels from the following list:

<p><i>Old School</i> by Tobias Wolff  <i>Ironweed</i> by William Kennedy  <i>All the Pretty Horses</i> by Cormac McCarthy  <i>American Pastoral</i> by Philip Roth  <i>In the Lake of the Woods</i> by Tim O'Brien  <i>In the Time of Butterflies</i> by Julia Alvarez</p>	<p><i>Oryx and Crake</i> by Margaret Atwood  <i>A Prayer for Owen Meany</i> by John Irving  <i>The Stone Angel</i> by Margaret Laurence  <i>The Amazing Adventures of Kavalier &amp; Clay</i> by Michael Chabon  <i>So Long, See You Tomorrow</i> by William Maxwell</p>
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2) Complete the following essay based on these two novels. This will be collected on the second day of class:

An effective literary work does not merely stop or cease; it concludes. In the view 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. In an essay, discuss the endings of these two novels. Explain precisely how and why the endings appropriately or inappropriately conclude the works. Do not merely summarize the plot.

--Adapted from the 1973 AP Literature and Composition exam. Used with permission.

3)

Allusions to Greek mythology and the Bible are prevalent in much of the literature we will read this year. Therefore, it will be important to be familiar with these stories and people. Research and study these Greek and biblical characters and stories; visit Mr. Rivito's website homepage ( <http://oldsite.nscsd.org/webpages/jrivito/index.cfm>) for a link to a glossary of these terms. **You will be tested on this material in September.**

### Greek Mythology

Achilles	Hermes	Persephone	Trojan War
Aphrodite	Icarus	Phaethon	Zeus
Athena	Jason & the Argonauts	Phoenix	
Centaur	Medea	Poseidon	
Charybdis	Medusa & the Gorgons	Prometheus	
Circe	Midas	Pyrrhic victory	
Cyclopes	Muses	Psyche	
Dionysus	Narcissus	Scylla	
Echo	Odysseus	Sirens	
Elysian Fields	Oedipus	Sisyphus	
Hades	Olympus	Styx	
Helen of Troy	Pandora	Tantalus	
Heracles	Penelope	Telemachos	

### The Bible

Abraham	Jesus Feeds Five Thousand Men	Pontius Pilate
Cain and Abel	Job	Prodigal Son (Luke 15:11)
Creation	John the Baptist	Rider on the White Horse
David and Goliath	Judas	(Revelations 19:11)
Exodus	Last Supper	Samson
Eye of the Needle	Lazarus	Sodom and Gomorrah
Forbidden Fruit/Original Sin/The Fall	Lost Sheep (Luke 15:1)	Song of Solomon 2:1-17
Good Samaritan (Luke 10:25)	Mary Magdalene	Unforgiving Servant (Matthew 18:21)
Great Flood	Moses	Wedding in Cana (John 2)
Jacob	Parable of the Sower	
	Peter's Denial	