

Advanced Placement Literature and Composition Summer Assignment 2026/27



Students will read Aldous Huxley's *Brave New World* (1932) and be prepared to intently discuss and write about the novel upon return to class in September. Please buy the book; annotations are a key component of your close reading. Used copies can be found on Amazon or the county library.

AP students will get in the habit of continued **annotations** for each selection. Annotations are highlights, circles, arrows, notes in the margins to use for future reference when discussing readings (if your book, sticky notes/ if the online version, then notes and pages). In these annotations, keep up a relevant dialogue that includes quotations and page references to passages. This a record of your observations, discoveries, questions, answers. Pay special attention to the author's writing style (diction/syntax), use of literary devices (foreshadowing, symbolism, allusion, imagery, irony ,theme). **Do not take the easy way out:** if you don't know a word, stickynote it with the definition as it is used in the novel. The same for allusions: When Huxley speaks of a particular event or theme, note it for class discussion. When he makes an allusion to Pavlov or a common phrase, what deeper intent might there be?

Submit a typed **MLA literary analysis, minimum three pages on one of the following:**

~Analyze the role of technology in shaping societal values in *Brave New World*.

~Discuss the theme of individuality versus conformity in the novel.

~Examine the use of conditioning and its ethical implications in the society depicted.

Must include at least **four direct quotations** of support

Be sure to use **TAG** (title/author/genre) in your opening paragraph

Refer to the Online Writing Lab (OWL) from Purdue University

Use this link for *Mythology* by Edith Hamilton, (https://ia800700.us.archive.org/31/items/bm_images/m-ch.pdf and select **ONE PART (of the seven sections)** to read completely. This serves as a quintessential read for students of literature and provides an academic background to many literary allusions. On lined paper, make brief notes for the one **PART** you've chosen to read.

YOUR ENROLLMENT IN AP English is contingent upon satisfactory expected completion of this summer work so you must give it your diligent attention. Per the Student Handbook, you may be removed from this class if the work is not submitted. Essay will be collected the first day back and MLA proper formatting is expected. Future submissions will be via turnitin.com.

My hope is that you are interested in stories and why humans tell them; be prepared to consider the purposes of storytelling. This is a theme that will be explored throughout the year. Close reading, focused writing and collaborative discussion are components of this course.

While AP Language prepared you to analyze an author's rhetoric and style to create meaning, AP Literature not only focuses on the language, but now includes further literary terminology and analysis in order to create multiple, disparate meanings in the literature and how/why that literature is reflective of components of society. Your summer reading assignment is designed to help get you thinking this way. Please reach out any time with concerns or questions :)