

In preparation for the adventure of AP English Literature and Composition, your assignments this summer involve reading, writing, and learning vocabulary. Try your very best to enjoy these two works, which were written as entertainment for the reader. Read by the lake, in a cozy chair, with your favorite cool drink!

No audio books!

Tasks: Read *Jane Eyre* by Charlotte Bronte and *Pride and Prejudice* by Jane Austen and then complete the corresponding assignment for each. Finally, create flashcards for the attached AP English Literature terms.

1. *Jane Eyre* by Charlotte Bronte (ISBN: 978-1586176990)

A. Read and annotate¹ the work

B. Be prepared to have a one-on-one conversation with the teacher about the book, during which you will be expected to show annotations, recite your three favorite quotations from memory and comment upon them, and answer questions about the text.

2. *Pride and Prejudice* by Jane Austen (ISBN: 9781586172633)

A. Read and annotate the work.

B. Be prepared to have a one-on-one conversation with the teacher about the book, during which you will be expected to show annotations, recite your three favorite quotations from memory and comment upon them, and answer questions about the text.

3. **Make flashcards** of these terms on 3 x 5 index cards; you'll use these cards all year. Leave room on your cards to add examples that you'll encounter throughout the reading during the school year. (*This assignment is worth 30 points*)

A. **Memorize the definitions listed below for a quiz. It will be matching.**

1. **Allegory**—story or poem in which characters, settings, and events stand for other people or events or abstract ideas or qualities. Example: *Animal Farm*, Dante's *Inferno*.
2. **Alliteration**—repetition of consonant sounds at the beginning of words.
3. **Allusion**—an indirect reference to something in history or previous literature.
4. **Apostrophe**—a poetic phrase or speech made that is addressed to a subject that is not literally present in the literary work or poem
5. **Ambiguity**—the intentional expression of an idea in such a way that more than one meaning is suggested.
6. **Connotation**—the associations and emotional overtones attached to a word or phrase in addition to its strict dictionary definition. Example: The word "home" suggests comfort and security, though it doesn't denote either of those.
7. **Couplet**—two consecutive lines of poetry that rhyme.

¹To *annotate* a text means to take notes on the pages of a text while reading. It is a way of engaging with and entering into an author's art and ideas. The goal is to have a rich, satisfying, and thought-provoking reading experience.

As readers annotate, they often develop an annotating system of their own. You will learn what works for you. For now, the important thing is to read all your summer assignments with pen or pencil in your hand, and take time to "talk back" to the text as you go.

8. **Denotation**—the dictionary definition of a word.
9. **Diction**—word choice. *Concrete diction* refers to words that are specific and “show” the reader a mental picture. *Abstract diction* refers to words that are general and “tell” something without a picture. Note the difference. Abstract “telling” diction: The young child, unaccustomed to strangers, was frightened by new people or new situations. Concrete “showing” diction: When the doorbell unexpectedly rang, the tiny boy abandoned his hot fudge sundae, bolted into the pantry, and hoped that the stranger would not hear the pounding of his heart.”
10. **Epic**—A long narrative poem, written in heightened language, recounting the deeds of a heroic character who embodies the values of a particular society.
11. **Epiphany**—a moment of enlightenment or heightened awareness when an ordinary object or scene is suddenly transformed into something that possesses significance.
12. **Foil**—a character who acts as a contrast to another character.
13. **Hyperbole**—exaggeration for effect. “You could have knocked me over with a feather.”
14. **Imagery**—the use of language to evoke a picture or a concrete sensation of a person, a thing, a place, or an experience.
15. **Irony**: A discrepancy between appearances and reality.
16. **Verbal Irony or Sarcasm**—Saying one thing and meaning another.
17. **Situational Irony**—discrepancy between what is expected to happen, or what would be appropriate to happen, and what actually happens.
18. **Dramatic Irony**—failure of a character to see or understand what is obvious to the audience.
19. **Metaphor**—a comparison between a tangible thing and an intangible reality
20. **Motif**—a recurring image, verbal pattern, or character that supports the main theme of a literary work.
21. **Oxymoron**—a form of paradox that places opposing words side by side. “Sweet sorrow.” “Living death.” “Open secret.” “Definite maybe.”
22. **Paradox**—contradictory statement that contains some element of truth. “Less is more.”
23. **Parallelism (Parallel Structure)**—repetition of grammatical form and function.
24. **Parody**—a work that makes fun of another work by imitating some aspect of the writer’s style.
25. **Personification**—giving human qualities to an abstraction or non-human object.
26. **Symbol**—a physical person, place, or thing that represents something else.
27. **Syntax**—the order of words in a sentence, sentence structure. An author’s distinctive form of sentence structure.
28. **Theme**—the insight about human life that is revealed in a literary work.
29. **Tone**—the attitude the writer takes toward the subject of a work, the characters in it, or the audience; revealed through diction, figurative language, and organization.
30. **Understatement**—a statement that says less than what it means. Opposite of hyperbole. Hyperbole exaggerates; understatement minimizes. Often used to make an ironic point. For example: In the midst of a howling gale in the “Deadliest Catch,” the boat captain says, “It’s a bit breezy.”