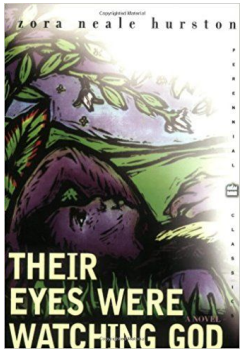



Kirtland High School  
AP English Literature & Composition  
The BIG Summer Read 2019  
#APLitBSR

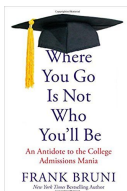
Welcome to AP English Literature and Composition! I look forward to working with you in the fall. Summer reading is intended to be high interest and thought-provoking. The first 2-3 weeks of school will be devoted to the study and discussion of your summer reading assignment. Should you procrastinate or wait until the week before school starts to begin reading and taking notes, you will have a difficult first few weeks. In order to have a productive start to your school year, you must complete these readings to the best of your ability. Your work should always reflect careful reading and critical attention. Have a fun, safe, and productive summer!

<b><i>Why read during the summer?</i></b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Researchers have proven that reading increases vocabulary and that reading and writing skills are inextricably connected to each other.</li> <li>• Good writers are good readers. Written and oral communication is most effective when you have a command of language and a broad vocabulary; reading gives you exposure to descriptive and rich vocabulary used in well-written and powerful phrases and sentences.</li> <li>• The accuracy and effectiveness of your communication is determined by your ability to read critically.</li> <li>• Reading can be one of the most satisfying and personal life-long habits you will ever develop.</li> <li>• Reading gives you knowledge and knowledge is power.</li> </ul>
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Because education is a year-round endeavor, for your course of study you need to **read two novels: one mandatory novel and one choice novel**. During the first few weeks of school, you will be evaluated on the books you have read through various assessments. For these assessments, you may use your books with annotations and/or any notes or journaling you have completed while reading these books closely.

	<p><b>Assignment #1 MANDATORY:</b> <i>Their Eyes Were Watching God</i> by Zora Neale Hurston</p> <p><i>"A deeply soulful novel that comprehends love and cruelty, and separates the big people from the small of heart, without ever losing sympathy for those unfortunates who don't know how to live properly."</i> —Zadie Smith</p> <p>One of the most important and enduring books of the twentieth century, <i>Their Eyes Were Watching God</i> brings to life a Southern love story with the wit and pathos found only in the writing of Zora Neale Hurston. Out of print for almost thirty years—due largely to initial audiences' rejection of its strong black female protagonist—Hurston's classic has since its 1978 reissue become perhaps the most widely read and highly acclaimed novel in the canon of African-American literature.</p>
<p><b>Assignment #2:</b> <b>Choose ONE!</b></p>	<div style="text-align: center;">  </div> <p> <i>All the Light We Cannot See</i> by Anthony Doerr  <i>Purple Hibiscus</i> by Chimamanda Ngozi Adichie  <i>Homegoing</i> by Yaa Gyasi  <i>Kindred</i> by Octavia Butler  <i>Power of One</i> by Bryce Courtenay  <i>Mama Day</i> by Gloria Naylor  <i>Station Eleven</i> by Emily St. John Mandel  <i>Where the Crawdads Sing</i> by Delia Owens  <i>There There</i> by Tommy Orange  <i>Sing, Unburied Sing</i> by Jesmyn Ward  <i>Never Let Me Go</i> by Kazuo Ishiguro  <i>Atonement</i> by Ian McEwan </p>

**Optional but Strongly Recommended for all seniors approaching the college application process:**

	<p><i>Where You Go is Not Who You'll Be</i> by Frank Bruni</p> <p>"Your worth is not determined by the university you went to. Or, in other words, "Where You Go is Not Who You'll Be." Alleluia. That's the exact mantra every student and parent must heed as they navigate the stressful college admissions process. I'm doing it for the fourth time and this excellent writer's new book could not have come at a better time for me. As Frank Bruni brilliantly demonstrates, your worth is your worth and it's yours to make wherever you go." --Maria Shriver</p>
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*Read not to contradict, nor to believe, but to weigh and consider. Some books are to be tasted, others to be swallowed, and some to be digested. That is, some books are to be read only in parts; others to be read but curiously, and some few to be read wholly, and with diligence and attention. Reading maketh a full man, conference a ready man, and writing an exact man." -- Francis Bacon*

Please use #APLitBSR to participate in optional Twitter chats this summer!

Please Sign-up for Remind by texting the message @b7286 to 81010.

Get some **BONUS POINTS**:

- 1) Sign up for Remind by 6/4/19
- 2) Text or tweet a selfie with your summer book choice using #APLitBSR by 7/15/19



If you have any questions, please don't hesitate to contact me at [meriah.duncan@kirtlandschools.org](mailto:meriah.duncan@kirtlandschools.org)