

English II PAP
Assigned Summer Reading 2021
MAJOR GRADE

Select TWO of the following novels to read-

Lord of the Flies by William Goldman

1954 novel by Nobel Prize-winning British author William Golding. The book focuses on a group of British boys stranded on an uninhabited island and their disastrous attempt to govern themselves.

Under the Feet of Jesus- Helena Maria Viramontes

A moving and powerful novel about the lives of the men, women, and children who endure a second-class existence and labor under dangerous conditions as migrant workers in California's fields.

Kindred- Octavia Butler

The first science fiction written by a black woman, *Kindred* has become a cornerstone of black American literature. This combination of slave memoir, fantasy, and historical fiction is a novel of rich literary complexity. Having just celebrated her 26th birthday in 1976 California, Dana, an African-American woman, is suddenly and inexplicably wrenched through time into antebellum Maryland.

Wuthering Heights by Emily Bronte

1847 novel by Emily Brontë, published under the pseudonym Ellis Bell. It concerns two families of the landed gentry living on the West Yorkshire moors, the Earnshaws and the Lintons, and their turbulent relationships with Earnshaw's adopted son, Heathcliff.

Kafka on the Shore- Haruki Murakami

Here we meet a teenage boy, Kafka Tamura, who is on the run, and Nakata, an aging simpleton who is drawn to Kafka for reasons that he cannot fathom. As their paths converge, acclaimed author Haruki Murakami enfolds readers in a world where cats talk, fish fall from the sky, and spirits slip out of their bodies to make love or commit murder, in what is a truly remarkable journey.

Slaughterhouse 5- Kurt Vonnegut

A science fiction infused anti-war novel by Kurt Vonnegut, first published in 1969. It follows the life and experiences of Billy Pilgrim, from his early years to his time as an American soldier and chaplain's assistant during World War II, to the post-war years, with Billy occasionally traveling through time. The text centers on Billy's capture by the German Army and his survival of the Allied firebombing of Dresden as a prisoner of war, an experience which Vonnegut himself lived through as an American serviceman. The work has been called an example of "unmatched moral clarity"¹ and "one of the most enduring antiwar novels of all time".

Assignment due Friday, August 20:

- Write an essay comparing and contrasting the novels in terms of character, plot, and theme.
- The essay should be typed, using 12 point Times New Roman font double-spaced between lines
- Or handwritten NEATLY in blue or black ink on the front side only of the paper.
- All writing should be grammatically correct in terms of spelling, punctuation, and sentence structure.
- Note that book titles are underlined or *italicized*- NOT in quotes!
- Use specific details from the story to support your points.
- Use at least three quotes **from each book** throughout the essay. Use no more than six quotes from each book.
- Quotes should be cited with correct quote citation. Example: "It is a truth universally acknowledged that a single man in possession of a good fortune must be in want of a wife" (Austen 1).
- Put your heading at the **top** of the page: **name, class, date due**. Give your essay an original title.
- If you have any questions throughout the summer, please don't hesitate to email me at ddooley@aubreyisd.net. I'll be gone a lot throughout July, so don't be surprised if I don't get back to you immediately.
- In the concluding paragraph, tell me which novel you liked better and why.
- End with your favorite quote overall. Don't forget the page number!

