



## Honors American Literature / CHS Advanced Academics Language Art Program Summer Reading 2020-2021



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*If you endeavor to take Honors American Literature next year, you must read at least TWO texts from the list of novels. Ben Firke, editor for ed.gov notes that “numerous studies indicate that students who don’t read or read infrequently during their summer vacation see their reading abilities stagnate or decline; this effect becomes more pronounced as students get older and advance through the school system.” With that in mind, a list of novels is included below which reflect themes of American Literature that will be focused on throughout your Honors semester. I urge you to do a little research with your parents on the titles that interest you before you commit to reading and find novels that fit with your interests and values.*

### **Google Classroom:**

1. You must join the Google Classroom for this course this summer!
2. Go to [classroom.google.com](https://classroom.google.com)
3. Click on the plus sign and select join class
4. Enter the class code: **maht4pl**

### **Assignment:**

1. For each novel that you read, you will highlight, sticky note, and/or write (annotate) in the margins of the novel examples of the American Experience. Where are there examples of events specific to America (national, regional, ethnic, religious, institutional, etc.)? How do these instances of the American Experience affect the character’s sense of identity? (Rubric attached)
2. For each novel that you read, you will write a well-crafted explanation(one page) of the author’s purpose for writing and how this influences the subjects, characters, events, and conflicts in the novel. Use your annotations to write this analysis. This is NOT a summary of your reading! It is two to three paragraphs espousing your thoughts on the author’s commentary of the questions posed.

### **Novel Choices: Choose Two**

The Red Badge of Courage by Stephen Crane

The Awakening by Kate Chopin

East of Eden by John Steinbeck

The Old Man and the Sea by Ernest Hemingway

Bury My Heart at Wounded Knee by Dee Brown

Black Elk Speaks by John G. Neihardt

The Bell Jar by Sylvia Plath

Ethan Frome by Edith Wharton

The Scarlet Letter by Nathaniel Hawthorne

A Raisin in the Sun by

Death of a Salesman by

As I Lay Dying by William Faulkner

Invisible Man Ralph Ellison

The Turn of the Screw by Henry James

The Secret Life of Bees by Sue Monk Kidd

The Adventures of Tom Sawyer by Mark Twain

The Adventures of Huckleberry Finn by Mark Twain

Narrative of the Life of Frederick Douglass, An American Slave by Frederick Douglass