Congratulations on your decision to take Advanced Placement English Language and Composition or English Literature and Composition. Please note, it is strongly advised that you take the language component before literature. These are college level courses that will require commitment and hard work. You will take an AP Exam at the end of the year that could potentially grant you college English credit. Please be aware that there will be review sessions and after school classes throughout the year. In addition, you will have projects during Winter and Spring break. You will not be permitted to miss class during FCAT testing.

This class requires that you purchase books. All of these books are available in local libraries and bookstores. We will refer to all books throughout the year, so having your own copy to annotate and highlight will be convenient. Often, you can purchase these books at a discount at used bookstores. Please buy actual books (not kindle or ebook) as you will be required to submit annotations.

Summer reading is due the First Day You Arrive to Class. Students must keep a brief, informal record of George Orwell’s *1984* (for AP Language students) and Arthur Miller’s *Death of a Salesman* (for AP Literature students). This will take the form of a Reading Journal. Your Journal needs to demonstrate close reading, careful in-depth analysis and reflection. Your text should therefore be fully annotated for themes and methods of characterization.

To reiterate, for AP Language read 1984 by George Orwell and for AP Literature, Arthur Miller’s Death of a Salesman. Make sure you read the right one.

**PART 1 - READING JOURNAL INSTRUCTIONS**

Create two equally long columns. Label the left hand column “Quotes” and the right hand column “Connection.” As you are reading, choose 5 quotes per section/Act which you feel are significant (in terms of key ideas, a recurring or important theme). On the right column, reflect on what ties the quotes to one theme or idea. For 1984 this will total 15 quotes and for Death of a Salesman this will be 10 quotes.

Note: Do not use quotes from SparkNotes.com, Pinkmonkey.com or any other website as you will be required to submit your journals to turnitin.com.

**PART 2 - ESSAY RESPONSES**

In addition to your journals, you will also be required to type two additional 5-7 paragraph essays. Be sure to take your time and fully understand what each prompt is asking. Determine
what you are being asked to do and how you are being asked to accomplish it. The essay will of course, be based on your specific allocated summer reading. Do not write about any other texts.

Prompt One
Often in literature, situations reach a “point of no return,” a point after which the life of a character can never be the same. Identify a character in your allocated text that reaches this point and write an essay explaining the situation and its effect on the character, the other characters, and the theme. Do not merely summarize the plot. Use evidence from the text to support your answer.

Prompt Two
Injustice, either social or personal, is a common theme in literature. From your summer reading, explain how injustice plays a significant role in plot and theme development. Write an essay in which you clearly define the nature of the injustice and discuss the techniques the author employs to elicit sympathy for its victim or victims. Do not merely summarize the plot. Use evidence from the text to support your answer.

Once again, we welcome you to the AP English program. Have a great summer!