

**Western Senior High School**  
**AP Literature and Composition Summer Reading Assignment**

Students should purchase copies of the works listed on the reverse side and below, read them thoroughly, and complete the assignments required. Summer Reading Assignments can be found at [www.westernhighschool.org](http://www.westernhighschool.org). Go to the homepage, click "Academics," then click "English," and then click on your Summer Reading Assignment.

<b>Summer Reading Titles:</b> <i>Cry, the Beloved Country</i> (Alan Paton)	ISBN 13: 9780743262170
<i>"Master Harold" . . . and the boys</i> (Athol Fugard)	ISBN 13: 9780307475206
<i>Oedipus at Colonus</i> (Sophocles)	ISBN 13: 9780156027649

For each title, do the following:

**A. Text Annotation:** As you read, think about the **characters--their personalities, dreams, conflicts, etc.**--as well as the possible theme(s) that they help the author create. Use **colored pencils** (different colors for different characters) to **underline** significant words and/or phrases that reflect how each author uses the **methods of characterization**. Also note words/phrases, etc. that show how each author uses literary elements other than characterization--**setting, point of view (only in the novel), conflict/plot structure, stylistic** elements (imagery, figurative language, personification, irony, etc.) to create effects and ideas. Also, be sure to "carry on a conversation" with the text as you read by making **marginal notes** that clarify your marking. This, as well as using **post-it notes**, will help you better understand each work and prepare for discussion and assessment. **DO NOT USE HIGHLIGHTERS AS THEY WILL BLEED FROM ONE PAGE TO ANOTHER.** You should also return to both *Oedipus Rex* and *Antigone* and do the same. **You should NEVER "color in" a paragraph; bracket any segments you feel have particular importance. Only underline words and phrases. MARKED BOOKS ARE TO BE TURNED IN ON THE FIRST DAY OF THE 2010-2011 SCHOOL YEAR!!!**

**For the sake of standardization of annotating for class and for grading purposes, your book notes MUST follow this format:**

- 1. Inside Front Cover:** Character list with small space for character summary and for page references for key scenes, moments of character development, etc.
- 2. Inside Back Cover:** Themes, allusions, images, motifs, key scenes, plot line, epiphanies, etc. List and add page references and/or notes as you read.
- 3. Bottom and Side Page Margins:** Interpretive notes, questions, and/or remarks that refer to meaning of the page. markings or notes to tie in with information on the inside back cover.
- 4. Top Margins:** Plot notes -- a quick few words or phrases which summarize what happens here (useful for quick location of passages in discussion and for writing assignments).

**Additional Marking and Note-taking (MANDATORY):**

- Underlining: complete during and after reading to help locate passages for discussion, essays, or questions.
- Brackets: complete during and after reading to highlight key quotations that are too long to underline easily.
- Use pencil to do initial marking while reading; then go back with another color or colors to mark more thoroughly.
- At chapter or section ends, stop to index page numbers on your front cover list of character information and traits as well as on your back cover list of themes, images, allusions, etc.
- Underline as you read and write side margin notes as you finish a page or two.

**B. Journal Response** (*Complete one title's response at the beginning of the journal, one at the end, and one in the middle so all notes can be kept together.*)

- When you have finished the **text annotation** outlined above, complete **each of the following for each title:**

**3 character charts**

**a conflict chart**

**a setting chart**

(Response chart models can be found on Western's website.)

**a style chart**

**a structure chart (Freytag Pyramid with plot listings and annotations)**

**a theme chart.**

Also complete a **point of view chart** for Paton's novel. If you have marked your texts well, charts will be easy. Remember also what you have learned about using the "xyZ" method when examining a text and recording reactions--no chart helps you if you do not have numerous citations and thoughtful explanations. Write as many **citations from throughout the work** as applicable on your chart segments; do NOT count quotes. In this case, more is better. Actually create and complete **charts by hand** in your journal--**NO TYPING, CUTTING, PASTING. Leave at least a page between one chart and the next. Each chart should be done separately** and all work should be clearly labeled and dated. **Leave at least a page between one chart and the next.** You should **divide your journal** into roughly **three sections**--one for each work. For example, begin one title's work in the front, one running from the back, and center the other in the middle. This way you can keep all additional notes/work about each title together.

**NOTE: STUDENTS WILL BE ASSESSED ON SUMMER READING TITLES ON THE FIRST DAY OF THE 2010-2011 SCHOOL YEAR. THEY SHOULD ALSO HAVE THEIR COPIES OF THE MLA HANDBOOK AS WELL.**