**AP SUMMER READING ASSIGNMENTS 2014**

Assignments will be due the first day of class. In addition to these assignments, during the first two weeks of school, a quiz will be given on each of the four assigned books and on Rossetti’s “Goblin Market”. Furthermore, a role-playing assignment will be given in the beginning of September that requires cadets to adopt the character traits of specific characters from the novels and demonstrate their understanding of the assigned reading. Thanks in advance for your hard work! I look forward to an exciting and enriching year!

**Summer Reading AP Essay 1**

For the following assignment, use BOTH ***Great Expectations***and ***Pride and Prejudice***. The assignment may be handwritten (if done neatly) or typed. Write a well-written essay (5 paragraphs) analyzing the following prompt (adapted from a previous AP exam) and provide supporting details from the book to back up your main assertions. Do not merely provide a plot summary of the works. Be sure to analyze.

***“Authors often highlight the values of a culture or a society by using characters who are alienated from that culture or society because of gender, race, class, or creed. Using one alienated character from Great Expectations AND one alienated character from Pride and Prejudice, compare and contrast how these characters each play a significant role in their respective books and show how each character’s alienation reveals the surrounding society’s values.”***

**Summer Reading AP Essay 2**

After reading ***A Raisin in the Sun*** and ***A Tale of Two Cities***, examine the following prompt, adapted from a previous AP Exam. Write a well-written essay (5 paragraphs) analyzing the prompt and provide supporting details from the book to back up your main assertions. The assignment may be handwritten (if done neatly) or typed.

***“It has often been said that what we value can be determined only by what we sacrifice. Consider how this statement applies to one character from A Raisin in the Sun and one character from A Tale of Two Cities. Consider how these characters have deliberately sacrificed, surrendered, or forfeited something in a way that highlights their values. Then write a well-organized essay in which you analyze how the particular sacrifice illuminates these characters’ values and provides a deeper understanding of the meaning of the work as a whole.”***

**Summer Reading AP ESSAY 3**

**Diction, tone, and imagery are three extremely important literary terms that we will work with throughout the course of the year. These terms are almost certain to be on the AP exam. It is essential that you become familiar with their meaning and usage.**

***Using either Christina Rossetti’s “Goblin Market” OR one of her other poems that was included in Christina Rossetti’s Selected Poems packet, construct a well-written essay (5 paragraphs) explaining how Rossetti uses diction, tone, AND imagery to illuminate the poem’s overall meaning or significance. Give specific examples from the poem.***

**DICTION** - the author’s choice of words. Writers use words to convey action, reveal character, imply attitudes, identify themes, and suggest values.

**TONE** - an author’s means of conveying an attitude or mood. By looking carefully at the choices an author makes (in descriptions, incidents, word choice, etc.), careful readers can determine the tone of a work and sometimes infer from it the underlying attitudes that control and color the poem as a whole. The tone might be formal or informal, playful, ironic, optimistic or pessimistic, etc.

**IMAGERY** - refers to the mental pictures that readers experience with a passage of literature. It signifies all the sensory perceptions referred to in a poem, including sight, sound, touch, smell, and taste.