

Thanks for signing up for AP English Literature! I'm looking forward to reading, talking, and working with you in the new school year.

There is no writing assignment for the summer. (So you can wipe *that* sweat from your brow at least!) The English department has posted a list of books from which you might make some reading choices over the next few months. Do have a look at that for ideas.

In addition, I'm providing you with a list of the *shorter* books planned for the year ahead. **Please read *two* of these books in the coming months.**

*Ethan Frome*, Edith Wharton ISBN-13: 978-0375757280

*Grendel*, John Gardner ISBN-13: 978-0679723110 (This is the story of Beowulf from the monster's point of view.)

*Fences*, August Wilson ISBN-13: 978-0452264014 (It's a play.)

*The Great Gatsby*, F. Scott Fitzgerald ISBN-13: 979-8745274824

When you encounter these books during the school year, you'll already have read half of them once, so the second go-round should be smoother sailing. (But don't give away the endings to those who haven't read what you've read!) I'll look to those of you who have read a particular book to help lead discussions when the time comes, so keep that in mind as you read (and perhaps you can research each book as well).

As with every AP class, a lot of your success relies on what you do outside the classroom, how much time you spend immersed in the subject matter. To that end, read and read widely. Find writers you like and try to understand why you like them. Read something challenging; read something that's just plain fun.

I'll see you in the fall.

Happy reading!

Mr. Preston