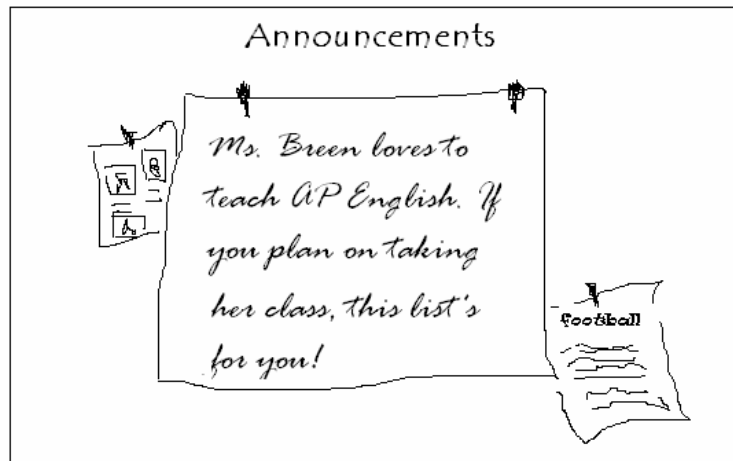


Summer Reading for AP English Literature and Composition 2009-2010

DeSales High School

In preparation for AP English, you have several assignments you must complete **before** the first day of class. Turning in the assignments on the first day says you are committed to the rigor of this course. If you decide not to do these assignments on time, you are saying, in effect, that you do not want to take AP English after all.



Readings

1. *The Curious Incident of the Dog in the Night-time* by Mark Haddon. Published by Vintage, 2003.
2. *Things Fall Apart* by Chinua Achebe. Published by Anchor Books, 1994.

Both of these books are available from local bookstores or from Amazon.com. Amazon may have used copies at lower prices.

Writing Assignments

After reading *The Curious Incident of the Dog in the Night-time*, go back through the novel to find about ten examples of the main character's "point of view." By this, I mean you should consider what he notices and what he sees that other characters do not pay attention to. Consider how he expresses his particular view of the world through what he says. Then write a two-page paper (about 500 words) in which you explain Christopher's point of view. Use the examples you found as evidence. Do not summarize the plot. I already know it. (If you can, please type this paper.)

After reading *Things Fall Apart*, write an essay of about 300 words in which you explain how the relationship between Okonkwo and his son, Nwoye can be considered **universal**, a reflection of all (or most) fathers and sons. Use examples from the novel, but also include examples from your own life or from the lives of people you know (no names, please) if you wish. Again, do not tell me the plot as I have read the book. (Typing is much appreciated.)

Please keep in mind that I have read Wikipedia, Sparknotes, and other sources of plot summary and analysis you might find. Don't make the grave mistake of using these either as a substitute for reading or as a source of ideas for your writing. I want to know what YOU think.

Enjoy your summer, and enjoy reading these engaging and entertaining books.

Ms. Breen