

Summer Project for English III AP on the accelerated block with: Mrs. Chegwidden, room 1315  
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**Note: The summer reading project is mandatory . If you have any questions, contact your counselor or the teacher.**

- New students from other school districts or even transfer students from schools within LISD must contact the counselor, pick up the project from the counselor, or print it from the district web site.
- No other summer project may be substituted for this class because of the numerous tests, essays, and other assignments conducted at the beginning of school over these two books.

**Assignment:** This summer you will read two fiction books: *The Jungle* by Upton Sinclair and *Red Badge of Courage* by Stephen Crane. Since the English Language and Composition AP course on the accelerated block is a fast-paced course, which focuses mostly on the non-fiction required by the College Board, the summer project will help with satisfying some of the district and state requirements for American Literature and help prepare the student for the English IV AP course.

Note: During the first two or three weeks of class, students will be assessed in various ways over their critical reading and understanding of each text. After a close reading of the novel, the student will be required to take an objective test and write an AP-level analysis essay.

Students must be prepared to complete the assignments whenever the teacher schedules the activities. A test over one of the novels could be as early as the first day of school. All students must be prepared, no matter when they enrolled in the course. You will be expected to have read your books by the first day of school and to be prepared for whatever assessment activities the teacher chooses to assign.

- To expedite the time spent on the summer project during the term, the student will need to be prepared to take the test and write the essay without the usual class discussion and preparation. Other short answer questions and assignments may also be given over the two texts during the term. Thus, a series of major and minor grades will be expected to be received by the student on the summer novels.
- Another written assignment will be to check your note-taking skills (annotations) in the book. Taking comprehensive notes will expedite the time you take in locating some critical information from the text such as being able to locate metaphors or similes or several pages that might demonstrate character development or theme. This may be a timed response, so taking excellent notes will be an advantage on this assignment.

- **Recommended Annotations:**

Books will not be turned in as an annotated grade the first day of school; however, your success on the objective testing and essay writing and note-taking skills may depend on your ability to take comprehensive notes in your books.

- Be prepared to be able to locate and analyze and evaluate quotations, rhetorical devices, literary terminology examples, and scenes, etc. quickly for the various assignments.

- **Variety of Note-taking ideas:**

It is recommended that you use a variety of annotative methods: highlighting, abbreviations, post-it notes, **marginal notes**, underlining, bracketing, parentheses, etc. It may help you to make yourself a key on an index card or the blank page in the front or back of the book or on post-it notes for the various notes.

**Here are some Recommended Annotation ideas to assist you in your critical reading and thinking skills for EACH book:**

**1. Themes: Social Issues/topics /theme topics for debate or argument or interest—All students should trace several issues/theme topics throughout the novels.**

***The Jungle:*** This book introduces the student to **Social Issues** such as the following: Immigration, Industrialization–Mass Production, Big City Neighborhoods, Unionization, Working-class neighborhood changes, Class relation(ethnic, gender, race, age, education), Corporate Influence and Design, Political influences and Cultural Institutions. Other topics will emerge as well. Take notes throughout the book to help you establish the important ones. These topics will be written into theme statements.

***Red Badge of Courage:***

**Identify the social /political issues/ theme topics in this book as well.** Some issues: war, military expectations and treatment of soldiers, concepts of death and grief, concept of heroism/courage or cowardly behavior, relationships between and among the soldiers, family relationships, victory or defeat, etc.

**Note: Methods to identify the issues or theme topics in your texts:**

• The issue may be introduced or presented through the major character's dialogue/commentary/insights and/or actions throughout the book.

- Note: The issue/theme topic may be introduced through the author's narration throughout the book. (Imagery, details, figurative language, commentary about the character or movement of the plot, etc.)
- The issue may be introduced through the minor character's dialogue, commentary, and/ or actions.
- The issue may be presented through other scenes or incidents with a variety of characters' dialogue, action, or commentary.
- Theme issues or topics could also be discovered through the setting, time and place of story.

## 2. **Rhetorical devices and strategies: Recommended Annotations**

- Figurative Language**—simile, metaphor, personification, etc.
- Allusions:** Biblical, Mythological, Literary, Historical.
- Diction and Tone:** Identify and mark vocabulary words that set the diction/tone of the literary work.
- Imagery:** Colorful details, even grotesque or graphic ones, that create a sensual image, one that you can see, hear, touch, taste, smell, etc. The details could be about a character, a place, an object, an event, the seasons/weather, etc.
- Foreshadowing/Flashbacks**
- Summarizing the chapters or sections may help you as well. Make notes of key plot changes or character development. Predict what could happen in the story.**

## 3. **Characterization: Recommended annotations**

In the front of your book, there is usually a blank page, or there may be one in the back of your book.

- List the major and minor characters and a few words to describe each of them . Then, it would help to annotate several of the pages of where you found interesting character details on each character.

Remember that the following may help you locate character traits/details:

- Character details reveal personality traits through dialogue or action
- Character details reveal a person's agenda, beliefs, hopes, dreams through dialogue or action.
- Character is revealed through the narration of the author (Sinclair or Crane is describing the character in some way.)
- Character is revealed through the dialogue or actions or commentary of another character about himself, herself, or someone else.
- In short, character is usually revealed by what the character says, does; what others say about him/her; and what the author reveals through narration or commentary.

## 4. **Appeals: Pathos, Logos, Ethos: Recommended annotations—**

- **pathos:**  
emotional incidents or commentary by characters or author—about work, community, family life, hopes and dreams, despair and anger, happiness and satisfaction.
- **logos:**  
logical/reasonable incidents/scenes where the characters speak the facts, the major ideas about the times, the workers, the immigrants, the politics, the industrialization, etc.
- **ethos** where there is author credibility, sincerity, integrity, perhaps in facts about the times, the location, the action. What makes the book believable and the author honest and true about what he/she says?

**5. Fallacies:** We will study many in class. You may wish to try to do the following:

Where can you “poke holes” in the propaganda or argument of Upton Sinclair in this story? Where do you think he is “ranting” about something? Hint, end of book --speaker/socialism. Where do you think Crane is against war or for war?

**Miscellaneous Notes from the teacher:**

**Be prepared to test and to write an essay topic without class discussion. Please refrain from using Spark Notes, Cliff Notes, etc. You will not want to plagiarize others’ opinions and ideas in your essays or other assignments. You are expected to work at an individual higher- level of thinking in the AP classes.**

**Various versions/editions** are available for these novels.

By obtaining your own copy of the book, you will have opportunities to annotate within your book for better understanding and reviewing. Please purchase a new book or locate a clean used book without another student’s annotations. Published notes in the text are acceptable. They may include vocabulary, allusion recognition, etc. Half-Price books may have a good, clean copy. Just make sure it is not already annotated. Barnes and Noble and Borders and other book stores in the area should have the books. You may also order them on line. EX: [Doverpublishing.com](http://Doverpublishing.com); [Amazon.com](http://Amazon.com); [Barnes and Noble.com](http://BarnesandNoble.com). Students have previously used the Barnes and Noble Classic Editions and the Scribner Published Editions in class. (I am using the Dover edition of The Jungle. The Dover editions cost less for most novels). Most of the editions are close in page numbers for the Red Badge text.

*Note: If you cannot purchase or obtain copies of the summer novels, please contact me before school is out. Come by Room 1315 if you have questions before school is out!*

- Come by to see some sample annotated novels in Room 1315 if you wish.
- **No excuses please** on completing the reading assignments over the summer: Make sure your name is clearly written in the front of the book!!!
- Suggestions: Don’t “leave the novels on the plane,” “Don’t leave them at Grandma’s,” “Don’t leave them out of the country,” “Don’t lose them on vacation,” “I didn’t know FMHS had a summer project.” ☺ “I’ve read one book but not the other.”
- AP students demonstrate organization, responsibility, diligence and honor.
- Be responsible. Please do not procrastinate until the end of the summer to read the books. Organize your time so that you will be able to refresh your reading quickly before school starts.
- Have a great summer! Enjoy reading other good books as well!

**Summary:**

*The Jungle* by Sinclair is about an immigrant family that has a desire to experience the American dream of the joy of having a family, of owning one’s own home, of job security, of maintaining family customs and traditions. In Chicago, they confront the many ills of industrialization in the meatpacking business. This is a novel of social criticism and prodded the government to write the Food and Drug Act in 1906.

*Red Badge of Courage* by Crane is a story about a young man who joins the military during the Civil War. He has idealistic dreams of glory. Once confronting his first horrible battle in which he loses his courage, he strives to clear his conscience and show courage as a man while he serves his cause.