

Captain Shreve High School
English IV - Advanced Placement English Literature and Composition
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English IV – AP Summer 2017 Assignments

This summer you will read 3 books and participate in the school-wide summer reading program. Consider this summer reading as preparation for an intense book club. Don't be afraid to enjoy these books. Our activities and discussions during the first few weeks of school will center around these texts and themes. The characters and people in these texts face struggles and conflicts that shape their identity. *Their Eyes Were Watching God* and *The Namesake* are texts written in the bildungsroman tradition - their characters experience a "coming of age." In their poems, fiction, personal essays, and memoirs, writers from *The Best Teen Writing of 2012* share experiences that shape identity. As you write college essays this fall, you will share stories about your own identity.

Can I read e-books? You will need hard copies of these books for our daily classwork. These texts are available on Amazon.com and the novels are widely available at the public library. Though the local book store may have copies for sale, I do not recommend *ordering* through the local book stores. In the past, they have not fulfilled orders in a timely way.

Due Dates: All assignments are due on the first day of school. Turn in hard copies and save electronic copies to submit on Turnitin.com.

Academic Honesty: These assignments must be completed independently, without consulting any other person, book, or source. Doing so will violate the academic honesty policy and you will receive a zero.

School Wide Summer Reading:

1. Choose from the list of resources at CaptainShreve.com and learn about the life and works of Alexander Hamilton.

Print Reading: I have copies of all of these books available for check-out over the summer. ☺

1. Scholastic, *The Best Teen Writing of 2012*
Order from Amazon or
[Click here for a free digital copy.](#)
ISBN-10: 0545541689
ISBN-13: 978-0545541688
2. Zora Neale Hurston, *Their Eyes Were Watching God*
3. Jhumpa Lahiri, *The Namesake*

Assignment: *The Best Teen Writing of 2012*: [Click here for a free electronic copy](#). Select 2 works from 2 different genres (poetry, fiction, nonfiction) from *The Best Teen Writing of 2012* that deal with themes of identity. How do these writers use language and literary elements to develop these themes? Be prepared to participate in a discussion about your choices.

Assignment - Novels: Read and annotate the novels by Hurston and Lahiri. Be prepared for me to check your annotations in class. Engage in active, close reading of the text by making notes about plot, language, characterization, setting, motifs, themes and – especially – symbolism. Question the characters and the conflicts they face. In addition to your notes within each chapter, write plot summaries on stickie notes at the end of each chapter. This will be helpful when reviewing for the activities, writing, and tests.

Close Reading & Essays: You will complete these tasks for BOTH novels (Hurston and Lee).

Close Reading: Select a passage (no more than 2-3 pages) from each novel for close analysis in a group setting. Choose a passage that provides rich diction, imagery, symbolism, etc. and will offer a fruitful discussion for close reading. Annotate this passage on your own and be prepared to present it to a group.

Essay 1: How does Hurston use the symbolism of the pear tree to reveal Janie’s changing identity and views of love? Cite short quotations from the text to support your response. Write 400-425 words. Use MLA format. If you use either of the secondary sources below, cite them.

If you are struggling to see symbols in *Their Eyes Were Watching God*, watch John Green’s Crash Course [here](#) or read this literary criticism from the EBSCO database (username: captain password: gators):

Dilbeck, Keiko. "Symbolic Representation Of Identity In Hurston's *Their Eyes Were Watching God*." *Explicator* 66.2 (2008): 102-104. *Literary Reference Center*. 17 Mar. 2014.
<https://goo.gl/xVZFFE>

“Their Eyes Were Watching God.” *Youtube*, uploaded by Crash Course, July 7, 2016.
<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=4kF0U8kIMp4>

Essay 2 : Consider the epigraph for the novel (the quotation from Nikolai Gogol that precedes the first chapter). How does Lahiri use this to develop meaning in the work as a whole (theme)? Cite short quotations from the text to support your response. Write 400-425 words. Use MLA format.