The Advanced Placement English: Literature and Composition Summer Reading Assignment is a comprehensive study of three works of literary merit (either novels or plays).

- One work must be from the list of books published before 1900.
- One work must be from the list of books published after 1900.
- The third work may be from either list OR a work of literary merit approved by the instructor.
  - This could be a novel, a play, OR a book of poetry (for example, *Jelly Roll: A Blues* by Kevin Young). Email me, Mr. Balliro, at jballiro@achs.net or see me before the end of the year to have your third work approved if it is not from the list.
  - **DO NOT_ASSUME I WILL SAY YES!** The book you want to read may be on the syllabus for the year.

Complete the assignment for each novel that you choose:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Pre-1900 Works</th>
<th>Post-1900 Works</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td><em>The Awakening</em> by Kate Chopin (1899)</td>
<td><em>A Prayer for Owen Meany</em> by John Irving (1989)</td>
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<tr>
<td><em>Pride and Prejudice</em> by Jane Austen (1813)</td>
<td><em>Purple Hibiscus</em> by Chimamanda Ngozi Adichie (2003)</td>
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**Assignment:**

Keep a dialectical journal for each work. Dialectical means “the art or practice of arriving at the truth by the exchange of logical arguments” (dictionary.com). A dialectical journal, then, is used to arrive at the “truth” of a text by engaging in conversation with the written work itself.

Divide your paper into two columns (you may write or type your assignment). As you read, **note 15 passages** in each novel that stand out. In the left-hand column of your paper, record meaningful quotes. Don’t forget page numbers! In the right-hand column, write your critical response to the text. Specifically, your dialectical thinking should include:

- making judgements
- asking questions
- connecting to real life
- connecting to other works of literature
- drawing inferences
- developing insights
- comparing and contrasting
- drawing conclusions
- predicting consequences
- analyzing the writer’s use of specific language and rhetorical devices