

Valley Stream Central High School

To: Parents/Guardians of students entering **Advanced Placement English Language and Composition**

From: English Teachers of Central H.S.

Subject: Summer Reading

Date: June 2019

Each summer, students in the Valley Stream Central High School District are encouraged to continue reading. In addition, the English Departments require that each 11AP student complete **two** works during the summer vacation. Upon returning to school in September, all students will be tested on the books they have read. Students are **required** to make notes on what they have read. Their notes should include details about character development, conflict, setting, and theme as well as author's purpose, literary devices, and questions or issues that may arise in the novel. These notes will be useful to the students during the in-class assessment. Please note that **only handwritten notes** generated by the student will be permitted in class. Notes can be taken on "post-it" paper, index cards, or loose-leaf. Students entering English 11AP are also required to complete the take-home reflection paper and organizer which will be due on the first day of school.

In order for students to develop the necessary skills for success in Advanced Placement English Language and Composition, parental support and cooperation are imperative. In an age when any type of information can be retrieved from the Internet, we are asking that parents monitor this assignment and encourage their children to read independently and take notes actively when reading. We thank you in advance for your cooperation and continued support. Please feel free to contact the English Department with any questions or concerns.

For students entering Advanced Placement English Language and Composition:

Students will choose one of the following works of fiction:

1. *The Help* by Kathryn Stockett
2. *Memoirs of a Geisha* by Arthur Golden

- Students must complete the organizer for fiction posted on the website.

Students will ALSO choose one of the following works of non-fiction:

1. *Fast Food Nation* by Eric Schlosser
2. *In Cold Blood* by Truman Capote

- Students must complete the response paper for the nonfiction assignment. Directions are posted with the fiction organizer on the website.

