

# Valley Stream Central High School

## AP English Literature/Summer Reading

In order for students to develop the necessary skills for success in Advanced Placement English Literature, below are **three assignments** students must complete before they return in September. We thank you in advance for your cooperation and continued support. Each one of these novels and authors have appeared on the AP English Literature Exam, and on the AP English Literature College Board syllabus. However, we encourage parents to preview their child's selected books in order to ensure that the content is appropriate for their specific child. Please feel free to contact the English Department with any questions or concerns. Happy summer!

### **Assignment 1**

In preparation for our unit on narrative writing/college essay/personal statement, read:

*Gas Money*- Troy Lewis

<https://www.gasmoneybook.com/>

### **Assignment 2**

Choose one novel/play from the list below:

- *Song of Solomon*- Toni Morrison
- *The Poisonwood Bible*- Barbara Kingsolver
- *Atonement*- Ian McEwan
- *The Power and the Glory*- Grahame Greene
- *The Handmaid's Tale*- Margaret Atwood
- *Blood Meridian*- Cormac McCarthy
- *Breath, Eyes, Memory*- Edwidge Danticat
- *Richard III*- Shakespeare

While/after reading, please annotate- we suggest annotating directly in a book/ebook or, if you do not have a personal copy of the novel. No typewritten /printed notes from websites accepted!

- ✓ All notes will receive a grade in September
- ✓ Students will be tested on the novels in September

### **Assignment 3**

- Draft (at least 500 words-typed or neatly handwritten) your own PERSONAL STATEMENT/COLLEGE ESSAY that responds to a prompt from one of the prospective schools you are considering OR from the Common Application.