

# Advanced Placement Literature and Composition Summer Reading Assignment

## **Required Reading:**

*Pride and Prejudice* by Jane Austen

*A Thousand Splendid Suns* by Khaled Hosseini

AP Literature Poetry Packet

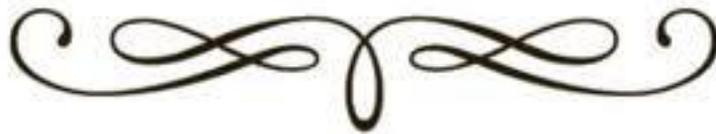
Both books are available on Amazon.com and from other online booksellers. You should be prepared to discuss these works as well as be tested on them when you come to class in August. Both novels should be thoroughly **ANNOTATED**. The completed AP Literature Poetry Packet should be completed and submitted on the first day of class.

## **The Novels**

Below are discussion prompts for the novels designed to assist in your understanding of the works as well as aid in your making historical connections that are necessary for a full appreciation of the works themselves.

**A Note Concerning Responses:** All written responses must be typed and no more than three paragraphs. Proper in-text citations are mandatory. Your initial response **MUST** be posted to the discussion board by the appropriate due date. You will then have 1 week to respond to **AT LEAST 2** of your peers' responses.

- All posts must be submitted to the Canvas discussion board
- Please remember to employ textual and historical evidence in your responses!
- Please be sure to answer the prompt as thoroughly as possible.
- Comments must be analytical and critical. Do not simply agree with your peers' posts.



***Pride and Prejudice* by Jane Austen**

**INITIAL POST DUE BY JULY 9, 2021**  
**2 COMMENTS DUE BY JULY 16, 2021**

Please be aware of the following themes, or universal ideas, that will be addressed in the novel:

- **Marriage**
- **Love**
- **Family**
- **Reputation**
- **Appearance/perception vs. reality** (prejudgment vs. revised judgment)
- **Intelligence vs. frivolity and snobbery**
- **Independence**

A **motif** is a recurring pattern or repeated action, element, or idea in literature. As you read, pay attention to the following motifs:

- **Class**
- **Courtship**
- **Fortune/inheritance**
- **Reputation**
- **Manners vs. vulgarity**
- **Balls**
- **Country estates**
- **Letters**

A **symbol** is a concrete object or place that has significance in a literary work because it communicates an idea. Consider how the author develops the following symbols and what ideas the symbols could suggest. Locate other symbols on your own. (

- **Pemberley**
- **Gracechurch Street**

**Pride and Prejudice Discussion Prompt**

Track the presence of ONE of the aforementioned motifs throughout the novel. Then, in a well-written and cited response, analyze the importance of that motif to the development of one of the primary themes within the novel. Be sure to cite specific moments that serve as evidence for your argument.

***A Thousand Splendid Sons by Khaled Hosseini***

**INITIAL POST DUE BY AUGUST 13, 2021**

## **2 COMMENTS DUE BY AUGUST 20, 2021**

Please be aware of the following themes, or universal ideas, that will be addressed in the novel:

- **Man's Inhumanity to Man**
- **Systematic Victimization of women by Patriarchal Institutions**
- **Spousal Abuse**
- **Resistance to Victimization**
- **Power of Education**
- **Education for Women**
- **Corrupting Influence of Absolute Power**

### **Historical and Cultural Understanding:**

You will benefit from an overview of the geography, history, and rich culture of Afghanistan. One reliable source, which can serve as an introduction is the CIA World Factbook: <https://www.cia.gov/library/publications/the-world-factbook/geos/af.html> This site will provide significant facts about the political history, geography, government, and people, which will assist in your comprehension and appreciation of the novel. It will also assist in responding to your questions.

### ***A Thousand Splendid Suns Discussion Prompt***

Throughout the novel, you will meet 3 father-figures: Jalil, Babi, and Rasheed. As you encounter these characters, take note of their parenting styles. Then, in a well-written and cited response, define what it means to be a father at this point in history in the Middle East. Use specific textual examples to support the many facets of a father's role in this culture.



**Good luck, and I will see you all in September!**

Feel free to e-mail me at [briansmith@dvrhs.k12.nj.us](mailto:briansmith@dvrhs.k12.nj.us) if you have any questions!