

Summer Reading Assignment for English 12 CC 2019-2020

Welcome to English 12CC—Survey of English Literature I and II. I look forward to a productive and challenging year. In order to begin with a lively and pertinent discussion, you will need to become engaged in your own education. I have provided an assignment that I hope you will enjoy.

Over the summer, you should read at least one novel, OR one book of poetry, OR one book-length work of nonfiction (such as an autobiography or collection of essays) of your choosing. Requirements: the author must have BRITISH citizenship (this can include postcolonial authors from India, Ireland, Jamaica, Nigeria, etc.) AND the book must have been published AFTER 1935 (see exceptions on the list below.)

As you are reading, think about what you think it means to be “British” or “Anglican.” Consider how the book that you are reading fits into the scheme of that definition of “being British” or of being a British subject (or what you learn about British customs or mannerisms). As you read, make some notes in the book to show how this author presents ideas and subjects in a manner that seems to show an aspect of his or her nation (be that positive, negative, or neutral.)

On the first day of school, you will turn in a one page minimum (250 words) response to the following prompt (**DO NOT TYPE THIS—YOU MUST HANDWRITE YOUR RESPONSE—THIS MUST BE YOUR ORIGINAL WORK—DO NOT GATHER THE RESPONSE FROM ANY OTHER SOURCE**) There is no maximum:

Prompt: What can you gather about life under British rule from what you read? Are there issues that citizens who live outside of the U.S. face that we do not? Are any of these apparent in your reading? How does this literature differ from what you read in English 11? Did you enjoy the reading you chose? Why or why not?

Bring your response on the first day of school. Also bring paper and a pen.

Please do not choose a book that you have read already. You may choose a book from any genre (sci-fi, fiction, historical fiction, nonfiction, biography, teen lit, etc.) Find something you think you will enjoy.

Happy Reading!

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Some books you might enjoy (check out the extended descriptions of the books online; some of these are tougher reads than others, but don't choose one simply for its ease):

Remember—you may choose any book you like whether it appears on this list or not.

1. The Chronicles of Narnia (CS Lewis, 1949-1954)
2. Memoirs of a Survivor (Doris Lessing, 1974) (Dystopic)

3. The Buddha of Suburbia (Hanif Kureishi, 1990)
4. Lord of the Flies (William Golding, 1954)
5. Cold Comfort Farm (Stella Gibbons, 1932)
6. The Woman in White (Wilkie Collins, 1859) (One of the first mystery novels)
7. The Jewel in the Crown (Paul Scott, 1966)
8. Excellent Women (Barbara Pym, 1952)
9. His Dark Materials (Philip Pullman, 1995-2000)
10. A House for Mr Biswas (VS Naipaul, 1961)
11. Women in Love (DH Lawrence, 1920)
12. Sense and Sensibility (Jane Austen, 1811)
13. Orlando (Virginia Woolf, 1928)
14. The Prime of Miss Jean Brodie (Muriel Spark, 1961)
15. The Line of Beauty (Alan Hollinghurst, 2004)
16. Oranges Are Not the Only Fruit (Jeanette Winterson, 1985)
17. Gulliver's Travels (Jonathan Swift, 1726)
18. Wide Sargasso Sea (Jean Rhys, 1966)
19. Tess of the d'Urbervilles (Thomas Hardy, 1891)
20. A Passage to India (EM Forster, 1924)
21. Possession (AS Byatt, 1990)
22. Midnight's Children (Salman Rushdie, 1981)
23. A Room with a View (EM Forster, 1908)
24. Howards End (EM Forster, 1910)
25. Moll Flanders (Daniel Defoe, 1722)
26. Robinson Crusoe (Daniel Defoe, 1719)
27. The Lord of the Rings (JRR Tolkien, 1954)
28. White Teeth (Zadie Smith, 2000)
29. Remains of the Day (Kazuo Ishiguro, 1989)
30. Atonement (Ian McEwan, 2001)
31. The Good Soldier (Ford Madox Ford, 1915)
32. Wuthering Heights (Emily Brontë, 1847)
33. Jane Eyre (Charlotte Brontë, 1847)
34. David Copperfield (Charles Dickens, 1850)
35. To the Lighthouse (Virginia Woolf, 1927)