

# Summer Reading 2023 for AP English 12 Literature and Composition

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Students taking AP English Literature & Composition in the fall must read **three books** during the previous summer.

**Book #1-** *Things Fall Apart* by Chinua Achebe

**Book #2** -Choose any book from the list below.

*Americanah*

Chimamanda Ngozi Adichie

*The Beekeeper of Aleppo*

Christy Lefteri

*A Woman is No Man*

Etaf Rum

\*All of these novels have mature and sensitive content and language. If this is a concern, please reach out to Mrs. Ahlm ([nahlm@ahastars.org](mailto:nahlm@ahastars.org)) to discuss alternative novels.

**Book #3** – Read a book of your own choosing that fits the rigor of a college course (approx) 200 pages that is not a movie.

## **Book 3 Assignment:**

If you read a work of **fiction**, you may choose any three elements of fiction from the list below and write a paragraph on each element explaining how that element exists in your chosen work. **Your chosen work should not be a text that has been adapted into a movie.** Each double-spaced paragraph should include a topic sentence (with title and author in the first one) and a concluding sentence, should be written in third person and present tense, and should include specific examples and quotes with page numbers from the novel. No introductory or concluding paragraph needed. Be sure to include **at least two direction quotations and a work cited.** The elements you may choose from include:

- Theme
- Irony (dramatic, situational, verbal)
- Structure (flashback, chronological)
- Metaphors
- Analogies
- Point of View
- Style (sentence structure, word choice)
- Character Development
- Foreshadowing
- satire
- similes
- setting
- imagery
- symbolism

**If you read a work of nonfiction**, you may choose three of the questions from the list below and write a paragraph on each. **Include a work cited page and at least two quotations.**

- What was the purpose of the book, and in what way did the author achieve this or not?
  - What did you expect to find in the book that was not there? Explain.
  - How is the book different from other books on the same or a similar subject?
  - What facts or ideas did you learn that were new to you or interesting? Explain.
  - To what extent is the book factual and to what extent does it express the author's voice, opinions or point of view?
  - Analyze the style in some of these terms: vocabulary, level of difficulty, clarity, tone (serious/humorous, formal/relaxed, controversial/predictable), use of conversation, use of descriptive detail.
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On the first full day of school, you need to have **read all three books** and to have completed the writing assignment **on your book of choice (#3)**. I recommend reading *Things Fall Apart* closer to the beginning of school.

\*If you are transferring into AP Literature from English 11, please see Mrs. Ahlm for the assignments to get caught up on over the summer.