

2019 AP English Literature and Composition  
Reading Logs Assignment  
Ms. Balas and Mr. Slanina

You will complete reading logs for each book required in AP English. Guidelines for the logs include accurately recording quotations and page numbers as well as fully explaining the significance of the quotations as they relate to the identified theme topics, characters, and plot devices. You will retain copies of logs for yourselves, print copies for the instructor, and submit logs to turnitin.com. Formatting the logs is based on personal preference, as long as the required information is clearly evident.

Consider these logs your personal journey through the texts. As you read, keep in mind the specific theme topics or subjects that have been identified for each book, and read closely to find relevant or supporting passages to record and explain. This process will help you devise theme statements related to the subjects. This is how you will arrive at the “meaning” in the novels. The same close reading should apply as you analyze characters and recognize significant literary devices.

You should record a minimum of three to four passages from the texts for each theme topic/subject and each major character. Minor characters should be acknowledged with at least two. Pay close attention to significant literary devices the authors use (point of view, narrative structure, conflict, setting, etc). In addition to identifying them, try explaining their function in the novels.

**A minimum of four complete logs are due on the first day of class.** You will be given the turnitin.com information then as well. You may complete more logs over the summer if you choose. The remaining logs will be due on the first day of novel discussion.

**READING LOGS ARE TO BE COMPLETED INDIVIDUALLY, NOT IN GROUPS!**  
**Reading log grades will be affected if matches are found to online sources or other students!**

If you have any questions please email [kristen.balas@bayschoolsohio.org](mailto:kristen.balas@bayschoolsohio.org) and/or [phillip.slanani@bayschoolsohio.org](mailto:phillip.slanani@bayschoolsohio.org)

**Finally, the poetry textbook is required for the first day of class.**

***Hamlet* (complete over summer)**

Theme topics: Family relationships, madness/decay/corruption, death, decisiveness/procrastination

Character analysis

Plot devices/Significant Literary Techniques

***Tess of the D'Urbervilles* (complete over summer)**

Theme topics: fate/chance/coincidence, know, God/religion, paganism, gender roles, nature/industry, innocence/experience

Character analysis

Plot devices/ Significant Literary Techniques

***Frankenstein* (complete over summer)**

Theme topics: alienation, benevolence/love/sympathy, fate/destiny, justice, laws of nature/science/creation

Character analysis

Plot devices/Significant Literary Techniques

***The Kite Runner* (complete over summer)**

Theme topics: forgiveness, religion/ethnicity, storytelling, betrayal, relationships

Character analysis

Plot devices/Significant Literary Techniques

***The Sound and the Fury* (it is suggested that you begin this over the summer)**

Theme topics: loss innocence, clinging to/rejection of the past, conceptions of love/relationships, time/order/disorder, illusions vs. reality/madness

Character analysis

Plot devices/ Significant Literary Techniques

***Beloved***

Theme topics: supernatural, family relationships, cultural and individual identity, violence, memory/connections to the past

Character analysis

Plot devices/Significant Literary Techniques

***East of Eden* (Ms. Balas only)**

Theme topics: good vs. evil/morality, family relationships, appearance vs. reality, sexuality, memory/connections to the past

Character analysis

Plot devices/Significant Literary Techniques

***Lord of the Flies* (Ms. Balas only)**

Theme topics: Fear, good vs. evil/morality, innocence, violence, fantasy/imagination

Character analysis

Plot devices/Significant Literary Techniques