

## English IV AP Literature and Composition Summer Reading 2022

“Literature helps us grow, both personally and intellectually. It provides an objective base for knowledge and understanding. It links us with the cultural, philosophic, and religious world of which we are a part. It enables us to recognize human dreams and struggles in different places and times we otherwise would never know existed.”

Roberts, Edgar V., and Henry E. Jacobs. "Introduction: Reading, Responding To, and Writing about Literature." Introduction. *Literature: An Introduction to Reading and Writing*. Upper Saddle River, NJ: Prentice Hall, 1998. 1-2. Print.

Hello class of 2023! Choose one of the following collections of short stories to read over the summer. Please keep your personal and family values in mind as you choose a title.

- [Going to Meet the Man](#) by James Baldwin, fiction writer, celebrated twentieth century essayist, playwright and a novelist.
- [Brownsville: Stories](#) by Oscar Casares, former director of the English Creative Writing program at UT- Austin.
- [Land of Big Numbers: Stories](#) by Te-Pin Cheng, a former correspondent for the *Wall Street Journal*.
- [The Nick Adams Stories](#) by Ernest Hemingway, pillar of American literature.
- [Interpreter of Maladies](#) by Jhumpa Lahiri, winner of the Pulitzer Prize.

Please note that the College Board describes our course as “careful reading and critical analysis of such works of fiction, drama, and poetry.” Our choices in short stories are to provide the College Board’s vision of “rich opportunities for students to develop an appreciation of ways literature reflects and comments on a range of experiences, institutions, and social structures.” For more information [click here](#).

It’s been a while since you’ve read some literature, so as you read thoughtfully consider and make note of the following big literary elements. **Be prepared to write analytically about and discuss critically** the below elements of short stories beginning the first full week of school.

Characters	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>● How are the characters crafted?</li><li>● How are they developed throughout the course of the novel?</li><li>● Are the characters relatable? How so?</li></ul>
Setting	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>● How is the setting crafted?</li><li>● How do the characters interact with the setting?</li><li>● What is the role of the setting beyond the backdrop of the novel?</li><li>● Going beyond time and place, what customs, values, and details of</li></ul>

	the novel's society are revealed by the setting?
Plot	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• How is the story told?</li> <li>• How is the structure of the plot an effective way to tell the story?</li> </ul>
Point of View	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• What is the point of view?</li> <li>• What insights are provided by the point of view?</li> <li>• Is the story skewed or unreliable in some way because of the narrator? How so?</li> <li>• How is the scope of the story limited or enhanced by the point of view?</li> </ul>
Themes	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• What is the overall meaning of the work?</li> <li>• How are we able to connect with works of literature not from our time period or experiences?</li> <li>• What universal ideas emerge from the work?</li> </ul>

We look forward to meeting you and studying literature with you next fall.

English IV AP Team:

Ms. Emily Adams [eadams@eanesisd.net](mailto:eadams@eanesisd.net)

Mr. Lee Bergen [lbergen@eanesisd.net](mailto:lbergen@eanesisd.net)

Ms. Lee Carnes [lcarnes@eanesisd.net](mailto:lcarnes@eanesisd.net)

Ms. Sara Mullins [smullins@eanesisd.net](mailto:smullins@eanesisd.net)