

## CSHS Summer Reading 2025-2026 School Year

For students entering 9-12 English reading over the summer is recommended, but not required. Those students entering grades 9 & 10 Honors English, AP Language and Composition, or AP Literature have required reading listed below.

### **Honors English 1 / Honors English 2 2025-2026 - Summer Reading Assignment**

Honors English 1 will read:  
*Animal Farm* by George Orwell

Honors English 2 will read:  
*Lord of the Flies* by William Golding

**Highlighting and Annotating:** As students read, they should highlight and/or annotate the essential facts of the plot, examples of literary techniques, and themes—meanings of the literary work.

**Class Discussions:** At the beginning of the school year, students will engage in small-group and/or class discussions of the novel. It is critical, therefore, that students complete the reading prior to the first day of school.

**Test:** After the class discussions, students will take a test on the novel.

**Short Essay:** After the class discussions, students will write a short essay responding to the novel.

### **AP Language and Composition Summer Reading 2025-2026 Welcome to AP English Language and Composition!**

Below is some information about the course and summer reading.

Purpose: According to the College Board at the core of this course, “is the reading of various texts...[w]hile writing represents a significant component of this course, the core skill required is the ability to read well. In reading another writer’s work, students must be able to address four fundamental questions about composition: What is being said? To whom is it being said? How is it being said? [and] Why is it being said?” We will spend the year wrestling with these questions, so during the summer you should spend time reading closely and thinking critically about why writers make certain choices in their works.

For your summer reading, you will read Jon Krakauer’s *Into Thin Air*. Your goal is to be ready to engage in discussions of the text in the first week of school. You need to read, annotate, and come to class with questions about and insights into the text. Below are the requirements for reading and annotating. While you will not have to turn in any formal assignment when you return from the summer, you will have assessments on the work during the first few weeks of school.

#### **Annotate:**

Annotating may include:

- In the margins ask questions, make comments about what you read
- Summarize important chunks
- Identify major claims
- Consider audience, context, message, author’s purpose
- Connect ideas: text-to-text, text-to world

- Note symbolic elements
- Note important ideas or passages
- Highlight key words, phrases, or sentences
- Highlight passages that are important in understanding the work
- Be sure to define words / terms that are unfamiliar (You will be responsible for vocabulary for the chapters)

#### **SOAPSTone Questions to Answer:**

- ***The author's credibility and background:*** How does the author establish the authority or experience to speak about this issue? What might bias the author's argument?
- ***The occasion for writing:*** When was the work written? Why? What gave rise to the work (author's exigence for writing)?
- ***The author's tone:*** Does it change throughout the book? How is tone used to serve the purpose? What language used helps to set the tone?  
(NOTE: Look up tone words. It is a good idea to download a list of tone words so that you have a variety of words to consider.)
- ***The author's intended audience:*** Who is the intended audience for this book? How does the author tailor the argument to suit the intended audience? How do you know who the intended audience is? What language or content in the book helps to determine audience?
- ***Claims:*** Identify where the author is conveying his claims. Discuss the effectiveness of each argument. How are these ideas conveyed? Is the author stating it directly or indirectly? Is the argument convincing? Why? (NOTE: There are main claims and sub-claims that authors make.)
- ***Purpose:*** Now that you have identified the author's primary and/or minor claims, what seems to be his overall purpose? What does he want to show readers, and what does he want readers to do after having read the book?

## **AP Literature and Composition Summer Reading 2025-2026**

### **Welcome to AP Literature and Composition!**

Below is some information about the summer reading.

Students will read the following:

*Frankenstein* by Mary Shelley

**Highlighting and Annotating:** As students read they should highlight and annotate for the essential facts of the plot, rhetorical techniques and their purposes, and themes—meanings of the literary works.

**Big Kid Centers:** During the first two weeks of school, students will engage in Big-Kid-Center discussions of the book.

**Tests:** During the first two weeks of school, students will take a test on the book.

**Open-Ended Essay:** In preparation for the open-ended essay on the AP Literature and Composition Exam, students will write their first free-response essay on the book.