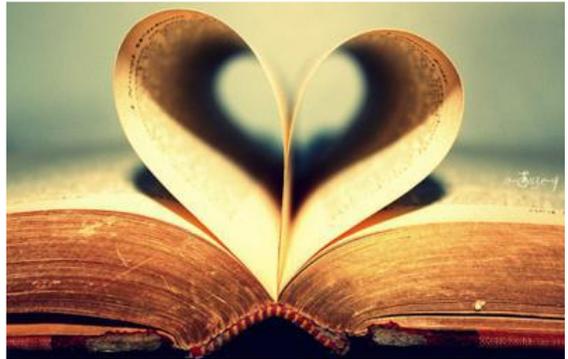


# McKinley High School

## AP English IV Literature and Composition PRE-COURSE Reading

Why pre-course reading? Reading increases students' vocabulary, spelling, and writing skills, as well as help students gain new perspectives on life situations. The more reading people do, the more information they gain, and the better their reading skills become. Reading is an effective means of preparing for standardized tests such as the ACT.



**Read two** of the following titles. Books with an asterisk \* will be provided for you.

- 1) *Holes* by Louis Sachar\*
- 2) *The Kite Runner* by Khaled Hosseini\*
- 3) *The Handmaid's Tale* by Margaret Atwood
- 4) *Balzac and the Little Chinese Seamstress* by Dai Sijie
- 5) *The Poisonwood Bible* by Barbara Kingsolver

As you read, complete sticky notes or journal entries in a notebook for BOTH NOVELS (20-30 per book). These entries should be about events and details that are important and show characterization, plot points, theme, symbols, etc. Be sure to include important major events and two details or interpretations underneath each major event; include your initials & page number on each note or entry. Additionally, complete a Major Works Data Packet for EACH novel. Submit BOTH Major Works Data packets on the first day of school. You will be expected to write an essay(s) on one novel during the first few days of school and do a project with the second.

Major Works Data Sheet Name \_\_\_\_\_

<p>Title: _____</p> <p>Author: _____</p> <p>Publication Date: _____</p> <p>Genre: _____</p>	<p><i>Biographical information about the author</i></p>
<p><i>Historical information about the period of the publication</i></p>	<p><i>Characteristics of the genre</i></p>
<p><i>Plot summary:</i></p>	

## Characters

Name	Role in the story	Adjectives	Significance

<p><i>Setting (time, place, atmosphere, mood)</i></p>	<p><i>Significance of opening scene</i></p>
<p><i>Symbols</i></p>	<p><i>Turning points in the plot/significance</i></p>
<p><i>Possible themes/topics of discussion (complete thoughts, not phrases, that are universal)</i></p>	<p><i>Significance of closing scene</i></p>

<i>Memorable quotes (cite!)</i>	<i>Significance</i>
<i>Author's style</i>	<i>Examples of narrative/stylistic elements (type &amp; quotes)</i>
<i>Literary Criticism and Source</i>	