

# DRAMATIC WRITING (HONORS ADVANCED COMPOSITION)

## PRE-COURSE READING: 2023-2024

**Why Pre-Course Reading?** The North Cobb High School English Department knows that pre-course reading helps you expand your vocabulary, spelling, and writing skills and gain new perspectives on life situations. Research is clear: The more reading you do, the more information you gain, and your reading skills will improve. Reading is also an effective means of preparing for standardized tests such as the SAT, ACT, and AP exams.

### What do I read?

- A. Select a *novel*\*\* that has
- been published in your lifetime.
  - not yet been adapted (as a stage play, for TV, as a film, video game, or any adaptation other than the novel itself).

\*Remember that a novel is *fiction*...which is fake.

\*\*Also remember that you are **ALWAYS WELCOME** to read **more than 1** book!!

- B. Annotate your selections. If you own your book, annotate it. If you do not own your book, sticky notes are fine. (See [hyperlinks here](#) for help in annotating.) Annotating means underlining, commenting, questioning, bracketing, joining with arrows, and numbering. It is NOT highlighting randomly and moving on. By interacting with the text, you will likely read the text more closely. Since you will use this novel to complete multiple assignments for the course, the information you “save” in annotations saves you time throughout the semester. You should be on the lookout for the following items as you read:

- Characters and their development
- The way (order in which) the plot unfolds
- How setting affects the action and the characters
- Dialogue (and its authenticity)
- What it all “looks” and “sounds” like in your mind



Goodreads says these are good.



Amazon book clubs' book lists



“greatest books”

- C. **E N J O Y** the reading, and I'll see you SOON!!

**Important Note for Parents/Guardians:** Please research accordingly before your student selects his/her books. You may wish to use resources such as [Good Reads Reviews](#), [Library Thing](#), and [Common Sense Media](#) to ensure that you and your student are comfortable with the material in the books chosen.