

# Avon Old Farms School

## Required Summer Reading List

All students attending Avon Old Farms School for the 2010-2011 school year are required to complete specific summer reading before school in September. In September, students will be tested in their history classes on the all-school required summer reading, *Mayflower*, as selected by the History Department. Students scheduled by the Academic Dean to take A.P. Environmental Science, A.P. Biology or A.P. U.S. History must also complete assigned reading; individual instructors will determine evaluation procedures for student reading in those courses. In addition, students scheduled by the Academic Dean to take an honors-level English class, an Advanced Placement-level English class, honors-level French 5, A.P. Spanish Language, A.P. World History and/or A.P. U.S. Government must complete essays/assignments as described below. Essays/assignments should be submitted to class instructors no later than Tuesday, September 14. Also, students assigned by the Academic Dean to take Advanced Placement Studio must complete the assignments described below and submit them on the first day of classes.

Books will be available for sale at Baxter Library while students are on campus. Afterwards, books not available at a local bookstore can be checked out at your local public library or ordered through [www.amazon.com](http://www.amazon.com). This list is also posted on the AOF web site on the Baxter Library page.

Of course, students are encouraged to read more than the “required” summer reading. To help students choose further reading, three suggested lists are available on the AOF web site: a “High Interest” list, a “Back to Classics” list, and a “Historical Novels” list.

### English 1 Honors

Please read the following work and write the assigned essay:

- *Of Mice and Men* by John Steinbeck

Essay: Do you believe George is justified in his final action? After carefully contemplating this question, write an essay of 400-500 words in which you use specific details from *Of Mice and Men* to support or refute the following position statement: George's final action could be described as the ultimate gesture of friendship. Submit your essay to your class instructor no later than Tuesday, September 14. Late essays are subject to a 10-point penalty per day. Essays submitted later than Saturday, September 18, will receive no credit.

### English 2 Honors

Please read the following work and write the assigned essay:

- *Gates of Fire: An Epic Novel of the Battle of Thermopylae* by Steven Pressfield

Essay: The concept of nobility forms one of the major themes of *Gates of Fire*. Write an essay of 400-500 words in which you define and then explain the term "nobility" as it applies to the Spartans at Thermopylae. Please use specific quotations from the novel to support your position. Submit your essay to your class instructor no later than Tuesday, September 14. Late essays are subject to a 10-point penalty per day. Essays submitted later than Saturday, September 18, will receive no credit.

### English 3 Honors

Please read the following work and write the assigned essay:

- *The Adventures of Huckleberry Finn* by Mark Twain

Essay: Using specific scenes from the novel, explain Huckleberry Finn's conflict with the “civilized” world around him and how this conflict helps shape Huck's identity. What are Huck's values and what are the values of the “civilized” world? How is the “civilized” world represented in the novel? Do Huck's values change throughout the novel? Do the values of the “civilized” world around him change? If so, how? These questions are intended as prompts and need not necessarily be answered directly. The most effective essays will contain specific support from the novel. Your essay should be no longer than 500 words. Submit your

essay to your class instructor no later than Tuesday, September 14. Late essays are subject to a 10-point penalty per day. Essays submitted later than Saturday, September 18, will receive no credit.

## English 4 Honors

Please read the following work and write the assigned essay:

- *The Road* by Cormac McCarthy

Essay: Discuss the role of *one* of Avon Old Farms's Core Values—Scholarship, Integrity, Civility, Tolerance, Altruism, Sportsmanship, Responsibility, Self-Discipline—in *The Road*. You should discuss how the value shapes character and/or plot and contributes to our understanding of the novel as a whole. Please limit your response to fewer than 500 words. (Technical Note: Craft your essay. Avoid the passive voice, discuss literature in the present tense, and integrate your quotations syntactically. Finally, write with personal flare.) Submit your essay to your class instructor no later than Tuesday, September 14. Late essays are subject to a 10-point penalty per day. Essays submitted later than Saturday, September 18, will receive no credit.

## Advanced Placement Literature and Composition

Please read the following work and write the assigned essay:

- *The Road* by Cormac McCarthy

Essay: Analyze the important "oppositions" in *The Road*. You might want to consider significant imagery, unusual language, setting, symbolism, and/or characterization in your essay. You should discuss how the oppositions contribute to our understanding of the novel as a whole. Please limit your response to fewer than 500 words. (Technical Note: Craft your essay. Avoid the passive voice, discuss literature in the present tense, and integrate your quotations syntactically. Finally, write with personal flare.) Submit your essay to your class instructor no later than Tuesday, September 14. Late essays are subject to a 10-point penalty per day. Essays submitted later than Saturday, September 18, will receive no credit.

## Advanced Placement Studio (Drawing, 2-D Design, 3-D Design Portfolios)

AP Studio Art is a college level studio class. This course takes a commitment beyond the classroom in order for you to grow technically, creatively, and aesthetically. By signing up, you have indicated that you are ready for the challenge. Over the summer you must complete **3 works** for the first class meeting in September. Summer assignments are the first grades of the fall term. Failure to complete them will result in zeros. We will have a class **critique** of the summer work the first day of the semester. Please bring your work with you that day.

### Supplies:

11" x 14" good quality sketchbook

Drawing pencils (B, 4B, 6B, & 8B)

Charcoal pencil

Sharpie marker (fine point)

Colored medium (pencils, markers, etc.)

Larger pieces of drawing paper

Each day draw what you see in your sketchbook. *Draw only from **observation**.*

Try contour line, gesture line, value drawings with strong darks & lights.

Try figure drawing, still life, landscape, etc.

### 1. Bicycle Drawing - Pencil on 16" x 20" white paper

\* Note: a drawing of a bicycle has been a part of the RSID entrance exam since 1950!

Check out this site: [Art/projo.com/The Providence Journal](http://Art/projo.com/The Providence Journal)

### 2. Self portrait

Avoid the straightforward, smack dab in the middle of the paper solution, unless you can do something unusual with it. Consider your expression & your head angle. A wide range of values and & quality in the hair is important in this drawing.

### 3. Eggs

Set up three to five eggs on a bath towel. Concentrate on the round forms of the eggs in contrast to the texture of the towel. Take time to place the eggs & develop a strong composition.

### 4. Doorway or window

Try to show depth in your work. The viewer should be able to "walk" into the drawing and feel the physical space.

## Advanced Placement Environmental Science

Please read the following book:

- *Encounters with the Archdruid* by John McPhee

## French 5 Honors

- Please read the first seven chapters of *Les vacances du Petit Nicolas* (the first chapter is called *C'est Papa qui décide* and the seventh is *On a joué à la marchande*), and complete the following assignment:

Choose two chapters to write about in two "postcards" to your teacher. Each "postcard" should be 12 - 15 sentences long and should describe the adventures of Nicolas from his perspective (in French!). In addition, you should prepare a list of at least 8 characters from these chapters with a brief description of each. All written work is due Tuesday, September 14. Late assignments are subject to a 20-point penalty per day. Essays submitted later than Monday, September 20 will receive no credit.

Note: To purchase the Honors French 5 book, contact Language Department Chair Kathy Leis (860-668-6226).

## Advanced Placement/Advanced Latin

Students should contact Ms. Landau for the specific assignment.

## Advanced Placement Spanish Language

Please complete the following three assignments:

- Writing Component

Assignment: Beginning the week of June 8<sup>th</sup>, write in Spanish at least two journal entries per week which include your thoughts and opinions on a variety of topics. In each of your 100-150 word entries, underline five Spanish words you have included which are new to you.

- Reading and Writing Component

Assignment: Using the list of Spanish resources provided by Language Department Chair Kathy Leis (860-668-6226), select and read five articles, one each on national news, international news, lifestyle, editorial opinion, and sports. For each of the articles, write in Spanish a summary of the piece and your personal

opinion on the topic addressed in the article. Be sure to staple a copy of each of the articles to each of your summaries.

- Listening Component

Assignment: Using the list of Spanish resources provided by Language Department Chair Kathy Leis (860-668-6226), listen to one radio or television interview and write in Spanish a summary of what you heard.

Be sure to tape the interview and bring a copy of the audiotape, videotape, or CD with you to school.

Submit the assignments to your class instructor no later than Tuesday, September 14. Late assignments are subject to a 20-point penalty per day. Assignments submitted later than Monday, September 20, will receive no credit.

## **Advanced Placement United States Government**

Students should contact Mr. Riemer about the writing assignment for the following book:

- *The Revolution Will Not Be Televised: Democracy, the Internet, and the Overthrow of Everything* by Joe Trippi

## **Advanced Placement United States History**

Please read the following book:

- *The Founding Brothers; The Revolutionary Generation* by Joseph J. Ellis

## **Advanced Placement World History**

Students should be sure they have a copy of the main text listed below and should contact Mr. Custer for the reading and writing assignment.

- *Traditions & Encounters* by Bentley & Zeigler

