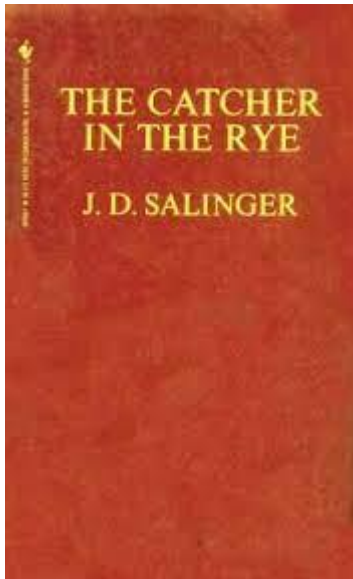


School of the Arts
Advanced Placement English Literature and Composition
2020-2021 Summer Reading Selections



***The Catcher in the Rye*, J.D. Salinger, 1951**

This novel significantly helped kick off the counterculture movement in America after World War II. It challenged long held American values and asked questions that would be taken up by Ralph Ellison a year later in *Invisible Man* as well as Jack Kerouac in *On the Road*, Ken Kesey in *One Flew Over the Cuckoo's Nest*, and Joseph Heller in *Catch 22*. Later Bob Dylan would raise similar questions in songs such as “Blowin’ in the Wind,” “Ballad of a Thin Man” and “It’s Alright Ma, I’m Only Bleedin’.” It introduces the first 20th Century literary teenage rebel, Holden Caulfield, who may have inspired the sensitive, tough guy image (not that he is a tough guy) that became so popular with actors such as James Dean and Marlon Brando. Ironically, the novel is partially responsible for the death of the most prominent counterculture figure of the 1960s and 70s, John Lennon, a founding member of The Beatles.

Read and annotate the novel. You only have one book to read, so please complete it by **10 August** so I have time to read your 250 word mini-essay.

Evaluation:

- 1) Annotations will be graded. But do not annotate for the sake of annotating. Annotate to document the passages you find significant for conveying such elements as conflict, theme, and character. Underlining and using asterisks is also helpful, but notes provide clarification.
- 2) Students will take an objective test on the first day of class.
- 3) Go to “Bloom’s Literature” on SCDiscus (username: Discus2021 password: Think1!) and search “The Catcher in the Rye: Essay Topics.” Be sure the source is “Post War Literature 1945-1970.” Or just click this [link](#). Choose just one of the six essay topics and respond to it in approximately 250 words. Upload your work to the AP Literature Google Classroom page (okm6wbk) no later than **10 August**, preferably much sooner. If you choose question #1 or #6, you can receive extra credit, as they ask you to read an additional story (#1) and a story and a poem (#6). If you choose one of these, please print the story and/or poem and annotate it and upload it with your 250-word essay. If you choose question 2, 3, 4, or 5, you only need to submit the mini-essay.

Please e-mail questions to John_Cusatis@charleston.k12.sc.us