I am honored to be your instructor for A.P. English IV, a college level course taken during high school. This course is designed to allow you to earn college credit (by taking either the AP English Literature and Composition Exam or the Dual Credit Enrollment Program through Texas Woman's University). I also strive to prepare you for the academic challenges you will face in college. My passion is to help you develop your critical reading, writing, and thinking skills. Toward this end, you will be held accountable for the summer reading the second day of class. Please obtain your books early—not being able to find a book on August 10th does not excuse you from the assignment.

**Required Reading**

1. Read *Things Fall Apart* by Chinua Achebe in its entirety.
2. Reread and study passages, pages, chapters, or the whole novel as many times as it takes to have a firm grasp of the setting, plot, themes, characters, point of view, symbols, and narrative structure. Take notes, and flag important passages.
3. Create a genre map using the “Genre Map Template for Novel” found on my DHS website at [http://www.dentonisd.org/Page/5162](http://www.dentonisd.org/Page/5162). Due dates: 8/26 (A) and 8/27 (B).
4. Timed in-class essay over the novel will be written sometime during the first week.

Use a word processing program such as Microsoft Word, and save your genre map on your computer, cloud, or flash drive. You will be submitting all assignments for this class to turnitin.com, a plagiarism-checking website. You probably already created a log-in for turnitin.com last year. Directions for using turnitin.com are on my website.

**IMPORTANT CAUTIONS AGAINST PLAGIARISM**

For this assignment, you need only use the primary sources, not secondary sources. Students will be notified by the teacher if an assignment requires outside research. Otherwise, the literary analysis papers we write in this class are primary source papers; this means that I want and require your honest and diligent response to the text(s).

You are required to read each assigned work carefully, thoughtfully, and entirely by the assigned due date. Plagiarism, whether from commercially prepared notes, the Internet, or another student's paper, falls under the heading of cheating. Cheating will result in parent contact and disciplinary action like detention, Saturday school, or ISS, not to mention the loss of my esteem and your own self-respect. Copying words or ideas from any source without complete and accurate documentation is plagiarism and will result in a zero on the work and parent notification. Even if you put the information in your own words, it is still plagiarism (and cheating) unless you document and cite your source(s) on a works cited.

**Suggested Additional Reading:**


This is a list of works that have repeatedly appeared on the open-ended question for the AP Literature and Composition Exam, which AP students take in May. Look some of them up on Goodreads or Amazon, find a few you like, and enjoy!