

Required summer readings:

- *The Poisonwood Bible* by Barbara Kingsolver
- *The Things They Carried* by Tim O'Brien

Read and annotate the texts. Your annotations may be directly on the pages (if you own the book), on Post-its, in the notebook you plan to use in class in September, or on an electronic document (but do include the corresponding page numbers). Make note of anything you find interesting, confusing, or significant. Also make notes on the following themes and topics:

- Biblical allusions
- How the authors discuss acts of violence—and why they might do so
- The authors' manipulation of time
- The characters' attempts to recapture or relate events of the past
- The relationships between character and setting

Please note that AP Literature and Composition is a college-level course and that some of the texts we will explore this year, including the summer reading novels, depict mature or controversial topics appropriate to college-level discourse.

Complete your reading and annotations by Friday, September 11, although it is recommended that you complete as much as possible before school begins on Thursday, September 3.

On and after September 11, be prepared to:

- Participate in graded discussions about the texts
- Take a quotation-based quiz on the texts
- Complete a timed in-class AP free response essay using evidence from the texts
- Complete an out-of-class essay on the topic of your choice

If you have any questions, please e-mail Ms. Coyle at acoyle@mahwah.k12.nj.us.