

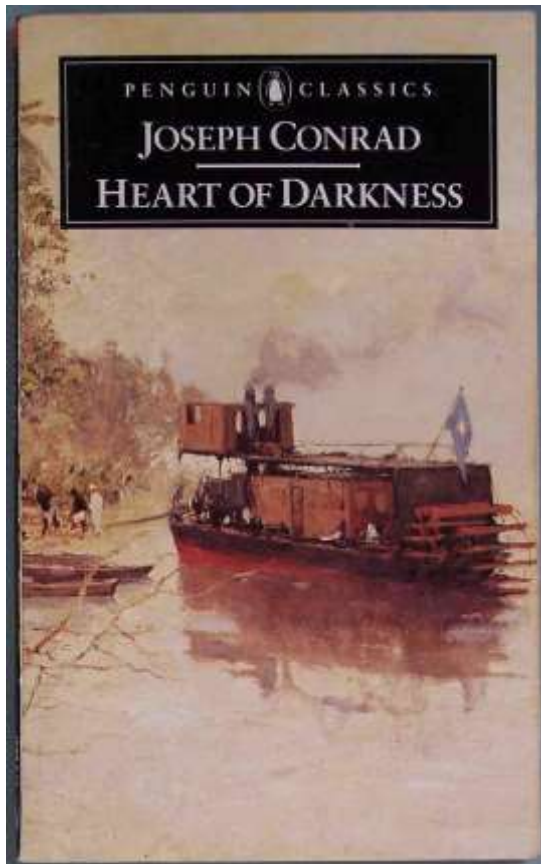
Creekside High School
Summer Reading Assignment
AP Literature and Composition

All students enrolled in the AP Literature and Composition course for the 2019/2020 School Year are required to complete a Summer Reading Assignment. This summer, students will read two texts: *Heart of Darkness* by Joseph Conrad and *Things Fall Apart* by Chinua Achebe. The purpose of this assignment is to begin building a foundation for understanding literature-focused writing and analysis, which is the cornerstone for success in the AP Literature Course.

For questions regarding this assignment please contact the AP teachers:

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Reading Assignments:

When students return to school in the fall, we will begin an in-depth discussion and analysis of the required readings. Students should be prepared for text-based tasks that they will perform in the first weeks of school. Students are required to effectively annotate the required texts while they read this summer. If a student is unable to purchase a copy of the text and is, instead, using a library copy he or she may complete the following requirements with removable post-it notes.

Annotations:

- Use a pen so you can make circles, brackets, and notes.
- Look for patterns and label them (motifs, diction (connotative and denotative), syntax, symbols, imagery, and other figurative language).
- Mark passages that seem to jump out at you because they suggest an important idea or theme.
- Ask questions and make comments (talk back to the text).
- At the ends of the chapters or sections write a bulleted list of key plot events. This not only forces you to think about what happened, see the novel as a whole, and identify patterns, but you create a convenient record of the whole plot for later study.
- Pay attention to allusions. Familiarize yourself with references to specific passages from other works of literature.
- Pay attention to any significance that might be suggested by a character's name. Make a note of your understanding of how their names signal more about them.
- The Harvard College Library has posted an excellent guide to annotations, "Interrogating Texts: Six Reading Habits to Develop in your First Year at Harvard"
 - <https://guides.library.harvard.edu/sixreadinghabits>