

**Summer Reading 2017      American Literature      Grades 10 and 11**

**Please note: All assignments are due on the first full day of classes. Please type your responses.**

***Of Mice and Men* (Steinbeck)**

Assignment #1

As you are reading, select 20 words that are challenging or unfamiliar to you.

Write the sentence from the book in which the word can be found.

Look up the definition of the word based on how it's used in the book and write the definition.

Write an original sentence with the word underlined.

Assignment #2

Choose one of the characters from the book.

Choose a theme that you feel is expressed through this character, such as Loneliness and Isolation, Hopes and Dreams, or Violence.

In an essay, describe the character and explain how the character you've chosen relates to that theme. Include specific examples and a quote or two from the book that also convey the theme for that character.

***A Raisin in the Sun* (Hansberry)**

Assignment #1

Research the Civil Rights Movement of the 1960s and discuss what part each character might play in the movement. (Write a paragraph or two summarizing your research and then a paragraph or two suggesting what roles the characters' might have played.)

Assignment #2

A dynamic character is one who, for better or worse, experiences a change in his or her attitudes, beliefs, values, or emotions during the course of the story. Choose a dynamic character from *A Raisin in the Sun* and analyze this character's change through the course of the play.