

# 11th Grade American Literature Summer Reading Assignment 2019 ~

There are different from the usual but definitely related summer assignments this year. One is the usual reading/writing and the other is in IXL.

\* I suggest you complete the IXL assignment prior to working on the writing portion. It will be of great assistance to you. Remember to keep your upcoming year's literature notebook or binder so you can jot down notes from IXL that will be a resource for this summer and future writing assignments.

## #1 IXL Summer Assignment

The work you complete in the following assigned sections of IXL will be reflected as two quiz grades.

Level M or 11<sup>th</sup> grade

A.1 – A.9 Sentence Structure

E.1 – E.18 Capitalization and Punctuation

J.1 – J.8 Writing Clear and Concise Sentences

P.1 – P.7 Reading Comprehension and Analysis

## #2 Reading/Essay Summer Assignment

Over the summer, you will be responsible for purchasing a copy of *Fences* by August Wilson, which is an American play dealing with a working-class family in the 1950s and the decline of the American Dream **OR** a copy of *Hidden Figures* by Margot Lee Shetterly, which deals with the American Dream and the lives and legacies of women mathematicians who changed the course of the history of the United States.

Literary analysis is a major component of 11th grade American Literature. Therefore, it is very important that you spend quality time interacting with the text (engaged reading/ questioning the text, reflecting, etc.). Please obtain a copy of *Fences* and/or *Hidden Figures*. An electronic copy or just watching the movie will not be sufficient for the assignment. You may use books from your local library if you are unable to purchase one. Use post-its to assist you instead of writing in the borrowed library book.

Read this assignment thoroughly and email me with any questions you may have...  
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What is the American Dream?

James Truslow Adams, in his book *The Epic of America*, which was written in 1931, stated that the American dream is "that dream of a land in which life should be better and richer and fuller for everyone, with opportunity for each according to ability or achievement. It is a dream that... too many of us have grown weary and mistrustful of.

It is not a dream of motor cars and high wages merely, but a dream of social order in which each man and each woman shall be able to attain to the fullest stature of which they are innately capable, and be recognized by others for what they are, regardless of the fortuitous circumstances of birth or position" (Adams 214).