

Pinelands Regional High School
Mr. A. Lupo
AP English Literature and Composition
Summer 2010

Summer Reading and
Writing Assignment

Directions:

Read each of the three books listed in the “Reading Assignment” section. After you have read each book, write the corresponding essay for the book as outlined below. Each essay must be six paragraphs long, typed and double spaced using Times New Roman 12pt font, no exceptions. Failure to hand in the assignment will reflect negatively upon your grade in my course. This assignment is due on the first day of classes, September 7, 2010. If you have any questions about the readings or the essays please contact me at ALupo@PRSDNJ.org.

Reading Assignment:

1. *The Stranger* by Albert Camus
2. *Crime and Punishment* by Fyodor Dostoevsky
3. *Native Son* by Richard Wright

Essay 1 – *The Stranger*

In great literature, authors often seize upon the plight of one particular character to represent a more general concern of humanity. In a well organized essay, explain how Albert Camus, author of *The Stranger*, accomplishes this. Avoid plot summary. Refer to a specific character and his specific concerns with textual references, then identify the more general concern which is represented.

Essay 2 – *Crime and Punishment*

“When a true genius appears in the world, you may know him by this sign, that the dunces are all in confederacy against him.”

~ Jonathon Swift

“Thoughts on Various Subjects, Moral and Diverting”

In some works of literature, the main character often finds himself or herself in conflict with the social or moral values. Using Fyodor Dostoevsky’s *Crime and Punishment* choose a character that is at odds with the people around him or her, or with society at large. Write an essay in which you explain the merits of the character and how these conflicts are essential to the overall meaning of the work.

Essay 3 – *Native Son*

In great literature writers often create cultural, governmental and other social situations in order to make important and even revolutionary statements on the nature of humanity. Using Richard Wright’s *Native Son* identify the situation Wright creates. In a well organized essay, define that situation and the statement Wright is making and explain how the author’s choice of that situation contributes to the effective communication of the statement.