**English IV – World Literature**

**Summer Assignment, 2017**

The following assignments are due the first day of school.

**ASSIGNMENT #1: SUMMER READINGS**

The following books should be completed by the first day of class. A summer reading assessment will be given at the start of the school year. Texts should be properly annotated, and a Major Works Sheet should be completed for each text.

Please purchase the following editions of each text. In order to facilitate classroom discussions, it is important that we are working from the same editions.

* **King Lear**, by William Shakespeare
(Folger Shakespeare Library: ISBN-10: 0743484959)
* **Death of a Salesman**, by Arthur Miller
(Penguin Publishing Group: ISBN-13: 9780140481341

TEXT ANNOTATIONS

Annotating a text involves writing directly in a work of literature while you read it. You should read with a pen, pencil, and highlighter in hand. Annotations should take place directly **in** the book, written **on** the page.

Ways to actively engage with the text:

* At the end of each chapter or section, briefly summarize what just happened
* Note the personality of characters (motivations, fears, dreams, etc.)
* Mark any symbolism and what you think each symbol represents
* Trace the themes of the work and note parts of the text that support these themes
* Note important passages and quotes, and comment on why they are important
* Ask questions and talk with the author (emotionally respond to the text)
* Identify literary techniques the author uses (foreshadowing, dramatic irony, point-of-view, etc.)

*Caution: While highlighting and underlining the text is valuable, do not underline and highlight everything. Your comments are more important, and if you highlight everything, nothing stands out*.

**ASSIGNMENT #2: MAJOR WORKS SHEETS**

Complete a major work sheet for each summer reading. While some outside research will be required to identify information about the author and the genre, you are asked to **refrain from using Sparknotes, Cliffnotes, Shmoop, or similar online summaries while conducting your analysis**. I want to see how you analyze the work on your own, not how well you can copy from someone else’s summary. Points will be deducted for quotations, themes, symbols, plot outlines, and character descriptions derived from online sources.

Be neat, clear, and detailed with your answers.

Late or incomplete data sheets will lose credit.