Dear Prospective 2015-2016 Advanced Placement English Student:

Welcome to AP English. I am glad that you have decided to take this course, and I want to remind you that you are making a serious commitment. In order to succeed in this class, you must be willing to make the time to read all the assignments and turn in all the papers on time, and you will need to come to class every day ready to engage in high level discussions. The class will be run like a college course, meaning grades will be based mainly on tests and papers, and each day you will be expected to engage in discussions on the reading. You need to have the responsibility and maturity level of a college student. In addition, you will be completing the Amelia Enrichment Project.

Before we begin class, you must complete the following assignment:

- Choose a novel off of the following list to read:
  - *Jane Eyre* Charlotte Bronte
  - *The Bluest Eye* Toni Morrison
  - *The Awakening* Kate Chopin
  - *The Color Purple* Alice Walker
  - *In the Lake of the Woods* Tim O’Brien
  - *A Tale of Two Cities* Charles Dickens
  - *A Handmaid’s Tale* Margaret Atwood
  - *The Adventures of Huckleberry Finn* Mark Twain
  - *Crime and Punishment* Fyodor Dostoevsky
  - *The Kite Runner* Khaled Hosseini
  - *A Thousand Splendid Suns* Khaled Hosseini
  - *Atonement* Ian McEwan
  - *The Scarlet Letter* Nathaniel Hawthorne
  - *The Great Gatsby* F. Scott Fitzgerald
  - *Lord of the Flies* William Golding

*If you have read this work for another class, you may not use it for this project.

- After reading the novel, you need to complete a 4 page typed essay, in MLA format. This is a literary analysis essay, so you will be using evidence from the novel to defend whatever thesis statement you write. Your thesis should make a debatable statement and have a point of view, and it should not read like “In Aldous Huxley’s *Brave New World*, technology plays a huge role in society.” Instead it should say something about the significance of the role that technology plays. It is not debatable that it plays a huge role. **Avoid plot summary, and**
**don’t forget to make direct references to the text.** If you are struggling or this does not make sense to you, feel free to email me over the summer, but be aware that I do not check my email every day over the summer. I would be happy to check thesis statements or give feedback where necessary: heikenfeld.e@westcler.org.

This paper will be due in Google Classroom the first Friday of school. In addition, I expect quality, college-level work that reflects time, effort, and deep level thinking.

I am glad that you have decided to take AP English, and I think this decision is putting you on the right track for a successful college career. Upon leaving this class, you should comfortably and confidently be able to write almost any type of essay, and no matter what your future plans are, knowing how to write is key to success!

Have a relaxing and enjoyable summer,

Mrs. Heikenfeld