

# Summer Projects for IB English 12 Lit - 2018

## 1. Read and understand *The Great Gatsby* by F. Scott Fitzgerald.

- Check out the book from the ERC by end of school year, OR (if you like to mark up your texts) obtain a personal copy\* as you see fit.
  - \*Special offer from The Book Shelf on Main Street: *The Great Gatsby* for 25% off, but for discount you (or parent) MUST present your FHS student ID! Call 756-2665 to confirm availability.
- **Read** the book once for enjoyment, for the story, for its personal meaning to you.
- **Re-read** the book through your literary lens, a reading that will be essential for the test in September, as well as later analysis of the text and study for the IOCs.
- You will find it helpful to **note key elements and responses** as you read. Highlight or annotate if the book is your own copy; use sticky notes if it is not.
  - Pay attention to stylistic devices and strategies; key passages that lead you to your own interpretation of the text; important figurative language (metaphors, allusions, symbols, etc.); passages developing character, setting, etc.; key character interactions and narrator revelations; and other significant literary features you notice. If there are vocabulary words you don't understand, it helps to look them up!

**Your reading will be evaluated by a comprehensive objective test on September 4.**

## 2. Personal Statements: Reflecting and Writing

- These statements will help you write essays for college/scholarship applications. We will write one such essay as part of your 12IB classwork.
- Read the brainstorming prompts on other side and decide which are most relevant to you.
- Make **SHORT** but thoughtful responses to at least 20 of the prompts listed (typed or handwritten). Include prompt number in each response.
- Select 10 prompts that you might develop into personal essays for college and scholarship applications this year.
  - Write 10 full-paragraph (¶) responses (150-200 words apiece), one for EACH of the 10 prompts you chose. Polish your responses and word-process your ¶s.
    - Use the prompt's key words, formatted in **bold print**, in each response.
    - **DOUBLE-SPACE**, spellcheck, and proofread your paragraphs.
    - At the end of each paragraph, put its word count in parentheses.
    - Total the word count for ALL responses and enter at end of document.
  - Staple your 20 short responses **on top of** your 10 typed paragraphs.

**Personal statement responses (short and long) due at start of period on September 4.**

*Have a wonderful vacation! We look forward to our literary explorations next year in IB Lit. Your teachers may be away during parts of the summer, but we welcome your questions via email and will respond as soon as we are able.*

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## Personal Statement Prompts

- On your own paper, write short responses (handwritten or typed) to AT LEAST 20 of these prompts.
- Develop at least 10 of your short responses into complete paragraphs, typed and formatted per instructions on other side.
- PS don't forget to read/respond to *Gatsby*!

1. Most significant personal event/incident in your life
2. Most amusing event in your life
3. Greatest learning experience/event in your life
4. Most important person in your family
5. Most important person NOT in your family
6. Most important person in history
7. Most important change you've made
8. Most important historical event
9. Most important news event
10. Your biggest hope/dream/goal for yourself
11. Your biggest hope/dream/goal for the world
12. Most important NON-school teacher in your life
13. Biggest problem you've overcome
14. Most significant idea you've encountered
15. Most embarrassing moment in your life
16. Your most important achievement
17. Greatest challenge you've faced
18. Most important value you hold
19. Historical person you'd most like to spend time with
20. Most important/significant book you've read
21. Best piece of advice you've received
22. Invention you'd most like to develop or see developed
23. Your favorite piece of music
24. Most important advice you'd give a high school freshman
25. Most important reason for going to college
26. Most interesting place you've visited
27. Place you've never been you'd most like to visit
28. The attribute of your personality you are most proud of and how it's impacted your life so far
29. The place in which you are most content/at peace
30. An incident or time when you experienced failure
31. Something you thought you knew for sure and discovered otherwise
32. A risk you took that changed you
33. The biggest misconception people have of you
34. (Optional: create a new prompt here)
35. (Optional: create a new prompt here)

List was compiled and adapted by Sue Brown and 'Asta Bowen from work by Elizabeth Duffey and Robin Brown.