AP Literature: Summer Read!!!

Greetings and welcome to the wonderful world of AP Literature! I look forward to an exciting year of reading and discussion with all of you. In order to prepare for the Fall, please read the following novel this summer:



Ghana, eighteenth century: two half sisters are born into different villages, each unaware of the other. One will marry an Englishman and lead a life of comfort in the palatial rooms of the Cape Coast Castle. The other will be captured in a raid on her village, imprisoned in the very same castle, and sold into slavery.

<u>Homegoing</u> follows the parallel paths of these sisters and their descendants through eight generations: from the Gold Coast to the plantations of Mississippi, from the American Civil War to Jazz Age Harlem. Yaa Gyasi's extraordinary novel illuminates slavery's troubled legacy both for those who were taken and those who stayed—and shows how the memory of captivity has been inscribed on the soul of our nation. (From Amazon.com)

Obviously the summer read will be challenging...in fact most of what we read challenges us to think and feel deeply. That is point of literature; literature examines the human condition and allows us deeper insight into the human experience.

Expectations: Read carefully and make note of important passages. In fact, I encourage you to use post its and 'comment' on the novel as you read...ask questions as well. Once you finish reading, select **THREE** passages, which you feel are the most important and write about them. Think of the writing as a combination of response writing and analysis. I want you to make commentary as well as analyze. type the passage at the top of the paper, then write about it. I am not looking for a specific length; I just want evidence that you are thinking deeply. The reason I suggest waiting until the end of your read to do this? I want you to consider this passage in the context of the novel as a whole....WHY are these three passages the most significant?

- This assignment will be due the first week of school.
- I WILL be available on email: tamara.schoen@browardschools.com
- You can also reach me through twitter: @tammy schoen

Do not hesitate to contact me with questions. Also....work on your college applications this summer. I am HAPPY to read any of your essays and help with those if you'd like. Email them to me. Enjoy your summer and READ, READ!