

British Literature – Summer Reading Assignments

Assigned Works

BOOK 1: All British Literature students must read:

Atonement by Ian McEwan

BOOK 2: All British Literature students must choose ONE of the following to read AND watch a film adaptation:

Sense & Sensibility by Jane Austen

OR

Jane Eyre by Charlotte Bronte

(No specific edition is recommended for these works.)

For Both Works:

1. As you read the works, you should take notes and/or annotate your text to prepare for detailed class discussion. A reading quiz on the first day of class is possible. You can expect that a paper or test about the works will be assigned.
2. Keep a list of new/unfamiliar words discovered as you read; you must have at least 10 and should reflect the full reading of the text. (In other words, don't take all of your new words from the first chapter.) For each word, record the sentence in which the word appears, with citation noting chapter and page number, and a definition that notes the part of speech as the word is used in the sentence and meaning. Your list can include names of people/places mentioned that are referenced in the work. Your word list should look like this:

1. Word	Citation (Author chapter:page#)
Quote	
Def	(part of speech) definition

For *Atonement*:

As you read, look for evidence of Briony's growth over the course of the novel. Find three quotations, one from each section of the novel, that show her progression. The quotations need not be spoken by Briony; remember that authors use narration, physical description, and other characters' reactions/responses to develop a character. Record your quotations and provide a brief explanation of what each quotation reveals about her development. Create a chart like the one below:

<i>Citation (Chapter: page #)</i>	<i>Quotation</i>	<i>Explanation</i>

For Choice Book: *Sense & Sensibility* or *Jane Eyre*:

Select one character from the novel and film. Find three quotations from the novel that describe the character; these can include physical description, another character’s description, or narrative description. Then, briefly explain whether the film stays true to this description or varies from it; make sure to provide at least one specific detail to support your opinion. Please set up your document as follows:

“Quotation from the novel” (Citation) Explanation of whether film adaptation stays true (1 paragraph)
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Due Date: Your documentation (word lists, quote charts) for both novels is **due on the first day of class (August 18/19)**. Please bring printed copies to class; each assignment should be typed on a separate page. You will also be asked to submit your quote charts to Turn It In for verification of originality.

NOTE: Use of study aides (Spark Notes, Schmoop, LitNotes, etc.) cannot replace careful reading of the works. Study guides can be inaccurate or focus on ideas different from those we will discuss. You may use them to help you understand the works, but do not rely on them to replace the careful and thoughtful reading expected of a Beaumont senior. And, of course, copying from these sources is a violation of academic integrity and is strictly prohibited.