Those students who are accepting the challenge of Advanced Placement English Literature & Composition are required to read THREE novels--

- **Sons and Lovers** (by D.H. Lawrence—novel), and **The Stranger** (by Albert Camus) and **All the Light We Cannot See** (by Anthony Doerr). In addition, you must read and analyze several poems (see poetry packet).

- **Sons and Lovers (by D. H. Lawrence)**
  Called the most widely-read English novel of the twentieth century, D. H. Lawrence’s largely autobiographical Sons and Lovers tells the story of Paul Morel, a young artist growing into manhood in a British working-class community near the Nottingham coalfields. His mother Gertrude, unhappily married to Paul’s hard-drinking father, devotes all her energies to her son. They develop a powerful and passionate relationship, but eventually tensions arise when Paul falls in love with a girl and seeks to escape his family ties. Torn between his desire for independence and his abiding attachment to his loving but overbearing mother, Paul struggles to define himself sexually and emotionally through his relationships with two women—the innocent, old-fashioned Miriam Leivers, and the experienced, provocatively modern Clara Dawes.

- **The Stranger (by Albert Camus)**
  When a young Algerian named Meursault kills a man, his subsequent imprisonment and trial are puzzling and absurd. The apparently amoral Meursault—who puts little stock in ideas like love and God—seems to be on trial less for his murderous actions, and more for what the authorities believe is his deficient character.

- **All the Light We Cannot See (by Anthony Doerr)**
  Marie-Laure lives in Paris near the Museum of Natural History, where her father works. When she is twelve, the Nazis occupy Paris and father and daughter flee to the walled citadel of Saint-Malo, where Marie-Laure’s reclusive great uncle lives in a tall house by the sea. With them they carry what might be the museum’s most valuable and dangerous jewel.

  In a mining town in Germany, Werner Pfennig, an orphan, grows up with his younger sister, enchanted by a crude radio they find that brings them news and stories from places they have never seen or imagined. Werner becomes an expert at building and fixing these crucial new instruments and is enlisted to use his talent to track down the resistance. Deftly interweaving the lives of Marie-Laure and Werner, Doerr illuminates the ways, against all odds, people try to be good to one another.

You are required to have completed all books by the first day of class in September. During the first week of class, you will be given a test to check that the material has been read. Additional assignments related to the texts will also be given.

Since this reading is challenging, it is recommended that you give yourselves enough time to read carefully. Use post-its to record your thoughts/questions/observations.

*Have a great summer and happy reading!*