

AP English Literature  
2009  
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Summer Reading

*The Kite Runner* Khaled Hosseini  
*Tess of the D'Urbervilles* Thomas Hardy  
*Crime and Punishment* Fyodor Dostoevsky

You will complete two writing assignments as your summer reading project. Trust your own readings and avoid the temptation to use secondary sources. (If you find yourself confused by the Russian use of names, read the "Translator's Preface" in your text of *Crime and Punishment*.)

1. Compose a poem titled "Thirteen Ways of Looking at Amir." Model this commentary on Hosseini's protagonist after Wallace Stevens's "Thirteen Ways of Looking at a Blackbird." You can find that poem at (<http://www.writing.upenn.edu/~afilreis/88/stevens-13ways.html>).
2. Compare and contrast Hardy's Tess and Alec with Dostoevsky's Avdotya Romanovna (Raskolnikov's sister Dunya) and Svidrigailov. These nineteenth century novels concern crime, sensuality, and guilt. Discuss the similarities and differences between these pairs of lovers in order to explain how each author treats the theme of suffering.