

May 2019

Dear AP English III and GT/AP English III Student,

The following is your summer reading assignment.

- Read the book *Columbine* by Dave Cullen before the first day of school.
- Be prepared for the following:
  1. assignments to be given over the novel during the first week of school
  2. class discussions over the novel during the first week of school
  3. an essay over the novel during the first week of school
  4. a test over the novel

NOTE: This novel is documenting the events and people surrounding the tragic shooting at Columbine High School in Colorado. It is a non-fiction text so it includes police reports, interviews, and actual journals the two boys wrote. Graphic language is used in some of the journal entries by the two young men responsible for these events. If you or your parent is uncomfortable with this, please notify one of us at one of the e-mails below and ask for an alternate reading assignment.

NOTE FOR THIS ASSIGNMENT AND THE ENTIRE SCHOOL YEAR: As with most major works, study guides such as SparkNotes are probably available. Study guides, however, are not always reliable sources for information about or interpretation of works. They often contain significant mistakes, and they certainly remove any chance of original thought. The intelligent approach, obviously, is to read the primary source (the work itself) and to attempt analysis and interpretation yourself. Study guides are appropriate only for review, or, occasionally, clarification. Assignments, tests, and essay are based on primary texts. Also, be careful to avoid plagiarizing these sources. Know that teachers are very familiar with these sites.

We hope you enjoy reading the novel, and we look forward to seeing you the first day back to school. If you have any questions or concerns, contact one of us at [yvonne.kaatz@dsidtx.us](mailto:yvonne.kaatz@dsidtx.us) or [evelyn.balderrama@dsidtx.us](mailto:evelyn.balderrama@dsidtx.us)

Sincerely,

Evelyn Balderrama

Yvonne G. Kaatz