

To Whom It May Concern,

I am writing to you concerning your child's summer assignment for the AP Literature and Composition class they have selected. Like in years past, they will be given three books and an assignment. The assignment and novels this year revolve around the sub-genre of dystopia, or an imperfect world, and how they fit into the period of literature known as *Post Modernism*.

As thrilling as the topic is, I really wanted to notify parents about the books as they can be controversial. Due to the contentious nature of the books, there will be alternatives.

The three proposed novels: *A Clockwork Orange* (Anthony Burgess), *The Handmaid's Tale* (Margaret Atwood) & *The Road* (Cormac McCarthy)

The two alternate novels: *1984* (George Orwell) & *Brave New World* (Aldous Huxley)

While *The Road* is mandatory, *Handmaid* and *Clockwork* can be replaced by the two alternates.

Of the three novels, *A Clockwork Orange* is probably the most infamous due to the movie, and *The Handmaid's Tale* is getting popular due to the series on Hulu. Both have significant literary value and are appropriate for the level of the course, but do contain objectionable material: rape or forced sex, violence and language. While *The Road* also touches on these issues, as well as cannibalism, it is more implied than explicit. If your child chooses the alternates, their assignment will be slightly different; I also will not be reviewing the alternate selections in class.

Please discuss these choices with your child as soon as possible. I will begin handing out the summer assignment shortly. Please feel free to contact me with any questions or comments.

Sincerely,

V. Iovane

AP Literature & Composition

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