

English II

Summer Reading

Your assignment is to read the short story, *The Possibility of Evil*, by Shirley Jackson.

The main character in *The Possibility of Evil* believes she can read into the hearts of those around her. As you read, consider Mrs. Strangeworth's motivation and the reasoning behind her actions. Is she really a kind and considerate person? Can we judge a person solely based on appearance?

Within the first week of school, you will take a quiz on this short story. It will serve as your first minor grade for the nine weeks.

The full story, along with an audio recording, can be found at this website:

<https://xpressenglish.com/our-stories/possibility-of-evil/>

If this site has trouble loading, a quick Google search of the title will lead you to multiple

sources such as this pdf link: [“The Possibility of Evil” Shirley Jackson](#)

We will be pairing this short story to our first novel, *To Kill A Mockingbird*, that we will begin in August.

**English III (American Lit.)
Summer Reading**

Your task is to read Charlotte Gilman Perkins' short story, *The Yellow Wallpaper*.

As you read, consider the roles of women in the late 19th century. What do we learn about the lives of women of the time through the experiences of the main character?

Here is a link to the short story: [The Yellow Wallpaper](#) It is also available at this link:

[The Yellow Wallpaper](#). If you have trouble with the links, you can Google the title and find it many places online. It's also available for purchase on Amazon for \$2.25.

Within the first week of school, you will take a quiz on this short story. It will be your first grade in English III. We will be pairing this text with Fitzgerald's *The Great Gatsby* in August.

English I (Freshmen)

Since English I will not meet until second semester (January, 2026), students will not have a standard summer reading assignment. Instead, at the beginning of the semester, students will be assigned a short story to read independently and will be given a quiz on this short story within the first few weeks of class.

Here is the link to the story if you would like to read it prior to our first class meeting in January.

English I (Freshmen): [Thank you, Ma'am](#) by Langston Hughes

English IV (Seniors)

British Lit.

Since English IV will not meet until second semester (January, 2026), students will not have a standard summer reading assignment. Instead, at the beginning of the semester, students will be assigned a short story to read independently and will be given a quiz on this short story within the first few weeks of class.

Here is the link to the story if you would like to read it prior to our first class meeting in January.

English IV (Seniors): [*The Monsters Are Due on Maple Street*](#) by Rod Serling