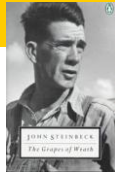


## 3<sup>rd</sup> Quarter Novel Study

AP English Language &  
Composition



## A few words about 3<sup>rd</sup> Quarter

- ✦ Work load/work ethic
- ✦ Building on language skills
  - Rhetorical analysis
  - Synthesis
  - Argument
- ✦ Building on “soft skills”
  - Proactive vs. Reactive
  - Responsibility in the learning process
  - Work ethic and follow through

## *The Grapes of Wrath*

- ✦ 3<sup>rd</sup> Quarter Novel Study
- ✦ Expectations
- ✦ Assignment

## John Steinbeck

- ✦ Best remembered for novels about poor and oppressed (*Of Mice & Men*; 1937, *The Grapes of Wrath*; 1939)
- ✦ Born in Salinas, CA
- ✦ Trained as marine biologist
- ✦ Wrote in naturalistic style



## Steinbeck's Realism

- ✦ Search for truth, respect the facts
- ✦ Urgency to write *Grapes* borne out of author's experiences with the people
- ✦ Longest sustained writing of his career (May-October)
- ✦ Writing history *as it was happening*

## *The Grapes of Wrath*

- ✦ Setting - Journey from Dust Bowl of Midwest to California (Route 66)
- ✦ Caused a *furor* when published

## Intercalary Chapters

- ✦ The "in between" chapters of novel
- ✦ Comment on the overall effects of the Great Depression in America
- ✦ Were originally a series of news articles entitled "Their Blood is Strong"

## Levels of Interpretation

- ✦ Family's struggle for survival
- ✦ Social history of the migrant struggle
- ✦ Story of the labor movement in America
- ✦ Biblical/Symbolic associations in fiction
- ✦ Visionary - look to future, global economy, how do choices we make affect us later on?