

## AP LATIN IV Summer Reading

Vergil's *Aeneid* is the story of the foundation of Rome. As the Latin languages first national epic, Vergil had no choice but to borrow from the poetic styling of one of the greatest epic poets of all time: Homer. The story of Homer's *Illiad* tells of the destruction of Troy, while the *Aeneid* continues the story. Please read Homer's *Illiad* and write a 4-5 paper addressing the following themes/topics:

### Fate

- Who controls fate?
- What happens to those whom defy fate?
- Is fate absolute for humans/the gods?

### Triumph of Order over disorder

- Where do we see order/disorder
- What specific events/people take place or arrive to cause this change

### Significance of the Gods

- What role do the gods play, is it integral?
- How does their role play into the theme of Fate?
- Is piety rewarded or impiety punished?

### Nobility

- What is more important, the people, or those who rule over the people?
- How is the noble *hero* idealized by the nobility and the people?