**AP Literature and Composition**

***Crime and Punishment***

**Topics for Further Study**

You are to choose one of the following research topics and write a four to five page FORMAL paper, double spaced, 1 inch margins, with **proper citations and a proper works cited page** **in MLA format**. This assignment is **due the first day of class**. Make sure you answer the question and use information from the book to help support your thesis. Make sure you are using [www.mel.org](http://www.mel.org) to complete this assignment and NOT Google. The articles used for your search must be attached to the paper.

1. Research the city of St. Petersburg, Russia. How did the city arise and develop? What are St. Petersburg’s main features and landmarks? Are the same landmarks and descriptions there today?
2. Research the main political movements in Russia in the mid-1800s. Is there any similarity between the kind of political groups that existed then and political parties as they are known in America?
3. Research the condition of serfs (peasants who worked for landowners) in nineteenth-century Russia. Compare serfdom in Russia to slavery in America. What were the main similarities and differences between the two institutions?
4. Research the plea of insanity as a legal defense in murder cases. What circumstances are usually necessary for a jury to find a defendant insane? Why does a defendant’s claim of insanity often cause controversy? Discuss whether this is a proper defense for Rodya.

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Thesis statement (10 pts)

Works cited page (15 pt)

Proper citations (5 pts)

Paper organization (20 pts)

Content (50 pts)