

Upper School Summer Reading
AP English Language and Composition
2022-2023

Welcome to AP English Language and Composition-- a course I hope will challenge you as a reader, thinker, and writer. I am looking forward to our year together!

Please note: The use of *SparkNotes* or any other reading substitutes is strictly forbidden and will be treated as an HONOR VIOLATION. DO NOT consult any outside sources as you read these books.

All students will read TWO books this summer:

All students will read

The Road

By Cormac McCarthy

AND

Each student will choose ONE of the following works of nonfiction:

We have tried to include a wide-range of topics to appeal to each of you. **Please take some time to research the titles** to find a book that will interest you! There should be something for everyone. Obviously, you should not choose a book that you have already read. These books may contain questionable language or content. Reach out if you have concerns.

Notes of a Native Son, by James Baldwin

In Cold Blood, by Truman Capote

Into the Wild, by Jon Krakauer

The Glass Castle, Jeannette Walls

Between the World and Me by Ta-Nehisi Coates

Educated by Tara Westover

The Immortal Life of Henrietta Lacks, by Rebecca Skloot

A Walk in the Woods by Bill Bryson

Me Talk Pretty One Day, by David Sedaris

But What If We're Wrong, by Chuck Klosterman

The Warmth of Other Suns: The Epic Story of America's Great Migration, by Isabel Wilkerson

A River Runs Through It, by Norman Maclean

Bury My Heart at Wounded Knee, by Dee Brown

Freakonomics: A Rogue Economist Explores the Hidden Side of Everything, by Steven Levitt and Stephen J. Dubner

Emperor of All Maladies: A Biography of Cancer, by Siddhartha Mukherjee

Assignment for each of the books:

1. Annotate as you read. Make connections with the text by commenting on interesting or important passages.
2. Choose **five** passages that you find worthy of commentary or analysis. Type the passage-- including the page number--and then write a well-developed paragraph of analysis.

Perhaps you want to examine a symbol or a literary device. Perhaps you want to make a connection between the passage and something else that you have read or experienced. Perhaps you believe the passage is central to one of the themes that you're discovering in the work. Perhaps you think it's funny and want to explain why. Again, please do not consult outside sources to determine which quotations are "worthy" of analysis. I don't care which passages you choose--only that you have something to say about them. The passage could be as short as a sentence or as long as a paragraph.

Five passages PER work—Ten total.

Work should be typed in MLA style and submitted as a Google doc on Monday, August 22nd. Please bring the books to class with you on that day too.

Happy Reading!