

AP English Language: Summer Reading, 2016

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Welcome to AP English Language! We look forward to working with you!

Our summer reading assignment is the beginning of a larger assignment that will continue through the year; the assignment will culminate in a synthesis paper in the spring. The goal of the assignment is to create a greater interest and awareness of current social, political, and economic issues. You will choose ONE book from the attached list.

YOU WILL SUBMIT THIS WORK ELECTRONICALLY, so keep your notes and ideas carefully! More directions will follow regarding submission. The work will be requested during the first two weeks of class in the fall of 2015. The book list will be posted at the Hanford High School website.

Directions:

1. Read the books carefully. Mark interesting passages; write questions in the margins; doodle; read creatively and with action.
2. Divide the book into four parts, according to the number of pages / sections. Create **FOUR** journal entries. This journal will be given back to you when we prepare to write the synthesis paper. Your entries should consist of about 100 words, discussing some of these points:
 - a. Do you agree or disagree with the author's viewpoint? Be specific as to why!
 - b. What are some of the best arguments? Even in books that seem to be simply describing a situation, the author is making a case for **SOMETHING!**
 - c. What arguments or examples in the book do **NOT** make sense to you? Why?
 - d. What are some examples of excellent writing from the text? You might consider vivid similes, surprising metaphors, sentence structure, descriptive phrases. How does this vivid writing add to your understanding of the author's purpose?
 - e. What elements or events in the text surprise, shock, or startle you? What elements cause you to rethink your ideas on the issue or situation?
3. Locate **AT LEAST THREE** articles that are in some way connected to the book. For instance, if you're reading *Complications* (about the life of a surgeon), some connected articles might discuss medical malpractice, end-of-life issues, surgical complications, the most exciting discoveries in recent medicine, etc.
 - a. **DO NOT USE REVIEWS OF THE BOOK!!!!** These are unacceptable!
 - b. Use examples from **EDITORIALS, COMMENTARIES ON ISSUES, or ESSAYS!**
 - c. Use only reputable sources. Some good sources include these: *New Yorker*, *New York Times*, *Atlantic Monthly*, *Wired*, *Los Angeles Times*, *Wall Street Journal*, *National Review*.
 - d. Mix and match your choices; all three may **NOT** come from the same source.
 - e. Clip and paste the articles into your journal. Be sure to include all URL information.
 - f. Write a response for each article. Your response should include the title and author of the article; each response should be about 100 words.
4. Things to include:
 - a. Do you agree or disagree with the viewpoint in the article? Why or why not? Be specific.
 - b. Did the editorial create a desire to know more about the issues?
 - c. What are some of the author's best arguments? Use text-based evidence to explain why the arguments are convincing.
 - d. What did you notice / like / dislike about the author's writing. Discuss sentence structure, phrases, tone, diction, etc. Use text-based evidence
 - e. What is the relationship between the article and the book you read?

Author	Title	Subject	Pages
<u>THE NATURAL WORLD</u>			
Abbey, Edward	<i>Desert Solitaire</i>	Reflections on man and nature	288
Pollan, Michael	<i>The Botany of Desire</i>	Symbiosis: man and plants	271
Weisman, Allan	<i>The World Without Us</i>	A post-man world	324
<u>ECONOMICS</u>			
Levitt, Steven	<i>Freakonomics: A Rogue Economist Explores the Hidden Side of Everything</i>	A multi-faceted at the interactions that make up the world economy. Fascinating!	315
Tapscott, Don and Alex Tapscott	<i>Blockchain Revolution: How the Technology Behind Bitcoin is Changing Money, Business, and the World</i>	Bitcoins are the new currency of the world!	368
Yunus, Mohammad	<i>Banker to the Poor</i>	Lending to 3 rd world business	240
<u>POLITICS AND SOCIETY</u>			
Capote, Truman	<i>In Cold Blood</i>	True crime: a famous murder	343
Critser, Greg	<i>Fat Land</i>	Why Americans are fat	256
Gladwell, Malcolm	<i>David and Goliath</i>	Underdogs and misfits	275
Jefferson, Margo	<i>Negroland: A Memoir</i>	Autobiography of a pre-Civil Rights life	256
Kay, Katty and Claire Shipman	<i>The Confidence Code: The Science and Art of . .</i>	Self- assurance	216
Sandberg, Cheryl	<i>Lean In</i>	Women in the workplace	217
Witt, Stephen	<i>How Music Got Free: The End of an Industry, The Turn of the Century, and the Patient Zero of Piracy</i>	Music and copyright	304
<u>FAMILY / PERSONAL</u>			
Fournier, Ron	<i>Love That Boy</i>	A father's journey with his autistic son	240
Hornbacher, Marya	<i>Wasted: A Memoir of Anorexia and Bulemia</i>	Body issues	336
Sheff, David	<i>Beautiful Boy: A Father's Journey . . .</i>	Dealing with a son's autism	336
Walls, Jeanette			
<u>HISTORY</u>			
Cullen, David	<i>Columbine</i>	A look at the Columbine event	417

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Gourevitch, Philip	<i>We Wish to Inform You That Tomorrow We Will be Killed With Our Families</i>	Rwanda	
Hillenbrand, Laura	<i>Unbroken</i>	WWII story of survival	473
Leovy, Jill	<i>Ghettocide</i>	Murder in the ghetto	384
Margolick, David	<i>Elizabeth and Hazel</i>	Desegregation in Little Rock	320
<u>THE LARGER WORLD</u>			
Boo, Katherine	<i>Beyond the Beautiful Forevers</i>	Life and death in Mumbai, India	256
Manji, Irshad	<i>The Trouble with Islam</i>	Islam from a religious woman	240
Carla Power	<i>If the Oceans Were Ink: An Unlikely Friendship and a Journey to the Heart of the Quran</i>	Friendship between a Christian woman and a Muslim cleric yields insights for both	352
Somerset, A.J.	<i>Arms: The Culture and Credo of the Gun</i>	Why are people obsessed with gun ownership?	352
Yousafzai, Malala	<i>I Am Malala</i>	Standing up for education; getting shot by the Taliban	352
<u>SCIENCE</u>			
Marsh, Henry	<i>Do No Harm: Stories of Life, Death, and Brain Surgery</i>	The life of a surgeon	288
Roach, Mary	<i>Stiff</i>	What cadavers teach	274
Sacks, Oliver	<i>The Mind's Eye</i>	Mysteries of the mind	288
Taleb, Nassim Nicholas	<i>The Black Swan</i>	Mathematical prediction and probability	444
Zimmer, Carl	<i>Parasite Rex</i>	World's most dangerous pests	320