

AP English Language and Composition Summer Assignment 2020

I. Students who are entering AP English Language should read TWO books from the following list:

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| • In Cold Blood | Truman Capote |
| • My Losing Season | Pat Conroy |
| • Symphony for the City of the Dead | M.T. Anderson* |
| • Angela's Ashes | Frank McCourt |
| • The Year We Disappeared | Cylin Busby |
| • The Glass Castle | Jeanette Walls |
| • Hidden Figures | Margot Lee Shetterly |
| • Founding Brothers | Joseph J. Ellis* |
| • Silent Spring | Rachel Carson |
| • Unbroken | Laura Hillenbrand |
| • Into Thin Air: A Personal Account of the Mount Everest Disaster | Jon Krakauer |
| • The Devil in the White City: Murder, Magic and Madness at the Fair that Changed America | Erik Larson |
| • Anne Frank: The Diary of a Young Girl | Anne Frank* |
| • Midnight in the Garden of Good and Evil | John Berendt |
| • The Other Wes Moore | Wes Moore* |

*on the 2020-2021 SCISA Battle of the Books High School Book List

- II. Students will be required to take the AR quiz for each book. If the website remains open over the summer, students can quiz after reading. Students can access the website through Google Classroom.
- III. For ONE of the books read, a book talk will be assigned during the first week of school.
- IV. While reading ONE of their summer reading novels, students must keep a dialectical journal. Directions follow.
- V. While reading ONE of their summer reading novels, students must annotate the text. Directions follow.

Requirements for Dialectical Journal:

Create a two-column chart:

As you read, choose passages that stand out to you and record them in the left-hand column of the chart. Look for quotes or passages that seem significant, powerful, thought provoking or puzzling. For example, you might record:

- Effective and/or creative use of literary devices (simile, personification, etc.)
- Passages that remind you of another work of literature
- Examples of patterns: recurring images, ideas, colors, symbols or themes
- Passages with confusing language or unfamiliar vocabulary
- Events you find surprising or confusing
- Passages that illustrate a particular character, setting or theme

In the right columns, write your responses to the text. You can respond to the text in a variety of ways.

Types of Responses:

- Raise questions about the beliefs and values implied in the text
- Tell what it reminds you of from your own experiences
- Agree or disagree with a character or the author
- Make connections between different characters or events in the text
- Discuss the words, ideas, or actions of the author or character(s)
- Analyze a passage and its relationship to the story as a whole

Requirements for Annotations:

Annotating a text requires reading with a pen or pencil in hand. If you are not allowed to write in your book, write on Post-It notes. While you are reading, use one or more of these strategies to mark the book and include your thoughts and questions.

- Write comments to ask questions, relate to characters, make connections to other text, and/or world events
- Write comments about the author's style, word choice, or graphic elements

Suggested annotation strategies:

- Star any passages that are very important: events, decisions, or cause and effect relationships
- Underline any sentences that made you think or appealed to you and describe your thinking
- Circle/highlight words that are unfamiliar or make a list of them in the back of the book
- Put a question mark by areas that you were confused about or did not fully understand
- Bracket any sentences that exemplify the author's style or word choice, or where the author includes graphic elements. Write your thoughts about the language.