

West High School: AP Language and Composition 2021-2022 Summer Reading Assignment

Welcome to AP Language and Composition. The AP English Language course emphasizes a mix of politics, history, social sciences, current events, and non-fiction prose. This class is different from most English classes you have taken before; it will ask you to analyze writing, develop sound reasoning and argumentation, as well as examine the power of language. This summer assignment offers you an insight into the style of writing you will be reading all year: NONFICTION.

Note: We are offering 15 different titles to choose from, so choose wisely. Review what each text is about (we tried to vary the topics), and discuss with your parents or guardians before purchasing your text. All should be easily located for purchase online, for checkout from a local library, or even downloadable as an audiobook.

You are encouraged to read more than one, but only one is required by the start of the school year.

This assignment must be ready for submission on the first full day of school. The submission will be via CANVAS. There is no excuse for an AP student to begin the course without the work.

No excuses are acceptable; you are responsible for completing your work. Please do not say, "I did not get the assignment," "My computer, disk, printer...," "I was on vacation and was without the opportunity to read..." etc.

Plagiarism: This school's plagiarism policy will be applied to any plagiarism for the summer assignment. You will not receive credit for plagiarism because you did not do the work, and you may not make up the assignment. You may not use SparkNotes, MonkeyNotes, or any other materials to replace reading the actual book. This also means you may not use information from these websites for your paper (ie. direct quotes or paraphrasing). You may not use materials from another student. Do not work collaboratively on these assignments (Collaboration has its place. However, we are working to prepare you for the AP Exam where no collaboration is allowed).

If you are having difficulty comprehending the book, understanding the assignment, or completing the assignment, please contact Mrs. Green (sarah.green@knoxschools.org) or Ms. Johnson (hannah.johnson2@knoxschools.org) for assistance. This is the best way to avoid panicking and resorting to cheating; we will likely check our email once every two weeks during the summer. Cheating, copying, or sharing work with peers or pulling from online resources is an automatic zero.

Note about potential content related to the AP English Language and Composition course from College Board.

Controversial Textual Content

Issues that might, from particular social, historical, or cultural viewpoints, be considered controversial, including references to ethnicities, nationalities, religions, races, dialects, gender, or class, may be addressed in texts that are appropriate for the AP English Language and Composition course. Fair representation of issues and peoples may occasionally include controversial material. Since AP students have chosen a program that directly involves them in college-level work, participation in this course depends on a level of maturity consistent with the age of high school students who have engaged in thoughtful analyses of a variety of texts. The best response to controversial language or ideas in a text might well be a question about the larger meaning, purpose, or overall effect of the language or idea in context. AP students should have the maturity, skill, and will to seek the larger meaning of a text or issue through thoughtful research.

Nonfiction Infographics

Your task is to create an **infographic** for the nonfiction text you read. An infographic is a visual outline and analysis of your book and is an alternative to an extended essay. Creating an infographic will require you to analyze your book's premise, your author's purpose, and the overall effectiveness of the author's primary argument.

BOOK CHOICES: [*Talking to Strangers*](#) by Malcolm Gladwell, [*Freakonomics*](#) by Steven Levitt & Stephen Dubner, [*Fast Food Nation*](#) by Eric Schlosser, [*The Immortal Life of Henrietta Lacks*](#) by Rebecca Skloot, [*Into Thin Air*](#) by Jon Krakauer, [*Educated*](#) by Tara Westover, [*Born a Crime*](#) by Trevor Noah, [*Dear America: Notes of an Undocumented Citizen*](#) by Jose Antonio Vargas, [*Just Mercy*](#) by Bryan Stevenson, [*Unbroken: A World War II Story of Survival, Resilience, and Redemption*](#) by Lauren Hillenbrand, [*Greenlights*](#) by Matthew McConaughey, [*I'll Be Gone in the Dark: One Woman's Obsessive Search for the Golden State Killer*](#) by Michelle McNamara, [*Quiet: The Power of Introverts in a World That Can't Stop Talking*](#) by Susan Cain, [*The Gift: Creativity and the Artist in the Modern World*](#) by Lewis Hyde, [*When the Game Stands Tall*](#) by Neil Hayes

Requirements:

Your infographic should be a visual representation of your nonfiction text and its contents. You **MUST** include the following:

- Title and author of book (books are *italicized*)
- One paragraph summary of the book (7-10 sentences) -- What is the book *mostly* about?
- A **rhetorical analysis** thesis statement identifying the author's primary claim, intended audience, and the methods used to present his or her argument.
 - SUGGESTED FORMAT:** In (author's name and text title), he/she/they ([rhetorically appropriate verb](#)) that (author's primary claim) through the use of (rhetorical choices).
 - Example: In *Before and After* by author's Judy Christie and Lisa Wingate, they seek to inform their audience of modern-day readers that the results of the questionable adoption practices of the Tennessee Children's Home Society impacted more than just those adopted but generations of families through their vivid portrayals of life as an adoptee and the gut-wrenching emotional impact the loss of a family creates in the victims.
- List of evidence (at least 3) and explanations used by the author(s) to support his/her/their claim.
 - This can be paraphrased examples of how the author supports the claim with citations AND explanations.
- A border to reflect the main idea of the book
- Illustrations to signify the book's main idea (symbols, events, graphs, etc.).
 - These must be labeled.
- Connections between the book and current societal trends or modern day events.
- How is the book relevant to readers today?
- A five star rating - providing a justification for your score; give your opinion of the book

Your infographic should be:

- ★ **Colorful** - An infographic is meant to be visually appealing. This project is taking the place of an essay, so it shouldn't look like an essay. Make it eye-catching!
- ★ **Neat** - You will not be graded on your artistic ability, but even unartistic people can be neat!
- ★ **Creative** - Think outside the box for symbols and border.
- ★ **Honest** - If you don't like the book, say so! All that is required is that you are thoughtful and that your reasoning is sound. Support your opinions with evidence.
- ★ **Professional** - You are analyzing the work of a published author, you must support your commentary with evidence. It can't be opinions only.
- ★ **AP Worthy** - This assignment must not falter with grammar or mechanics. Watch the spelling, capitalization, and punctuation.

This year's INFOGRAPHICS will be DIGITAL. Below are several free online resources to create yours.
The assignments will be submitted to your teacher's Canvas page by the first full day of school.
Late submissions are unlikely to be accepted.

[Piktochart](#): submit a PNG download

[Venngage](#): submit a URL to published infographic

[Canva](#): submit a URL to shared infographic OR submit a PDF, PNG, or JPG download

[Google Slides](#): submit a URL to shared infographic OR submit a PDF download

INFOGRAPHIC RUBRIC

| Components | Yes | No | Limits/Comments | Score |
|--|-----|----|--|----------|
| Title of Book w/ author | | | | ____/1 |
| Summary of Text - multiple sentences | | | Too few sentences -3 points | ____/10 |
| Border - content appropriate | | | | ____/4 |
| One Sentence Main Claim written as a THESIS statement | | | | ____/10 |
| Evidence to support main idea - cited (3+) | | | Failure to cite evidence -3 | ____/10 |
| Commentary of Evidence connection to claim and strategy (x3) | | | 10 points for each section of explanation/commentary. | ____/30 |
| Illustrations to show the main idea (symbols, events, ideas, etc.) | | | Illustrations must be labeled and explained. | ____/10 |
| Book's relevancy or Current Connection | | | | ____/10 |
| 5 star rating & Personal review of the book | | | Not a multi sentence review -3 | ____/10 |
| Visual Appeal / Content Colorful Tidy/Neat/Effort Legible Professional in language and style | | | Excessive faults in grammar and mechanics will result in automatic loss of 5 points. | ____/5 |
| | | | | |
| TOTAL | | | NO NAME FOUND? Loss of 5 points from the total score. | ____/100 |