

AP Language and Composition Summer Reading 2019

Congratulations on accepting the challenge of completing a college level course during your junior year of high school. I commend you for your initiative and commitment to academic excellence. To prepare for our work in the fall, I *highly recommend* that you complete the following assignment.

Assignment: Choose one of the College Board recommended texts that you have not previously read or studied.

**Into the Wild*
**Picking Cotton*
**The Glass Castle*
A Moveable Feast
In Cold Blood
The Omnivore's Dilemma
Outliers
Devil in the White City
The Year of Magical Thinking
Founding Brothers
Astrophysics for People in a Hurry
Blood Done Sign My Name
Hillbilly Elegy

*Signifies that we have copies of these texts available for checkout from the English Department. The rest of the texts are in plentiful supply at our school and local libraries.

Reader Response Virtual Discussion: You will use the following prompts to complete **six thoughtful responses** while reading your selected text. These responses will be sent to me via email in real time (do not wait to send all six after you have finished the text, send them as you read your selected text and complete your responses). When responding, please make sure to identify which prompt you are addressing, and always make sure to cite your page numbers according to MLA standards when making direct textual references. Your assignment should be completed before the first day of class.

1. **Reactions and Impressions:** Record these after your first reading. These can be in any form—free writing, notes, lists, stream of consciousness, etc. Reflect and comment on why you feel as you do about specific items in the literature— characters, ideas, or any other significant element. Wait a while and read the selection again; what do you think now? Add to the reaction.
2. **Quote:** Choose a line, phrase or word that has some significant meaning for you from the piece. Focus on noteworthy dialogue or some insightful sentence. Choose several lines in the piece if appropriate—discuss your selection as it relates to your views or application to real life. Make some connections and decisions about these quotations.
3. **Vocabulary:** Highlight words that need interpretation, interest you, or are apparently significant word choices by the author. Highlight words that make you wonder! Find the definition of the words and discuss further thoughts on why the word was selected or how it relates to the meaning of the piece.
4. **Questions:** Pose a few thoughtful questions about the reading that require further analysis, definition, or clarification. What questions do you need answers to immediately? Are there unresolved questions? What are your hypotheses?
5. **Commentary:** Make some honest comments about the subject, characters, actions, events, or connections the piece suggests. This might be criticisms of the writer or the behavior of the characters or the style of writing. Do your remarks reveal something you can discuss further? Why are you bothered or thrilled by what you've read?
6. **Compelling Writing:** Record an example of powerful writing. Why might your selection qualify as lines worthy to remember? The line(s) can be brilliant or shocking or confusing. What more can you say about your selection?

I highly encourage you to engage me in authentic dialogue around the content of your book throughout the summer. Please email me at timothy.jarman@nhcs.net with any questions, comments, or concerns. I look forward to hearing from you, and I hope that you have a restful, productive, and enjoyable summer.