

AP Language Summer Reading Assignment for Summer 2018

AP Language & Composition Summer Reading

Welcome to your introduction to AP Language & Composition! As preparation for the year ahead in AP Language and Composition, you are required to complete the following summer reading assignment. The summer reading work is a preview of the course ahead- reading critically, writing thoughtfully, and speaking/listening purposefully. You will be expected to have all components printed and ready for use on the *first day* of class!

Part I: Reading Like a Writer: *Read Bird by Bird by Anne Lamott*

Write down ten (10) things you learned about writing and being a writer. Be sure to write a paragraph explanation for each selection and support your choices with quotes from the text.

Part II: Learning about your World: *Weekly Current Event Articles*

Throughout the 10 weeks of summer, you are to read pertinent news articles on current events. The purpose of this activity is for you to read and become informed about the world outside of yourselves. Having more background knowledge on contemporary issues will make you a better AP Language student and a better citizen.

Task:

1. Every week you are to spend 1-2 hours reading the news or listening to news broadcasting programs (e.g: NPR, podcasts, etc).
2. Select substantial articles that offer in-depth perspectives on pertinent issues in our world. *What greater ideas does it address? Why should we care? To what other stories, experiences, prior knowledge can this be connected?* Essentially, be thoughtful in your selections.
3. Take notes on your weekly reading/listening in order to prepare for a student run discussion within the first couple days of class. Your note-taking method is yours to decide, but your notes should be useful to you upon returning to school as you will be graded on the quality of your discussion.

Here is a list of credible sites:

The Boston Globe (<https://www.bostonglobe.com/>)

The Huffington Post (<http://www.huffingtonpost.com/>)

The New Yorker (<http://www.newyorker.com/>)

The Atlantic (<http://www.theatlantic.com/>)

The Boston Herald (<http://www.bostonherald.com/>)

Salon (<http://www.salon.com/>)

The Wall Street Journal (<http://www.wsj.com/>)

The New York Times (<http://www.nytimes.com/>)

The Los Angeles Times (<http://www.latimes.com/>)

The Washington Post (<https://www.washingtonpost.com/>)

NPR (<http://www.npr.org/sections/news/>)

Part III: Memoir: Crafting our Stories

Select one of the following memoirs to read. You are to complete the following Reading Log once you have completed the memoir.

List:

I am Malala by Malala Yousafzai

Born a Crime by Trevor Noah

Dress Your Family in Corduroy and Denim by David Sedaris

Yes Please by Amy Poehler

A Heartbreaking Work of Staggering Genius by Dave Eggers

Student Name: _____

Reading Log - Memoir

Title: _____

Author: _____

Part I: Claim & Reasons

What claim does the author make in the memoir? (Only select one for the purpose of this assignment.)

What are the reasons presented that support the claim being made?

Reasoning #1: _____

- What evidence is presented to develop this point? (List and provide direct references)

Reasoning #2: _____

- What evidence is presented to develop this point? (List and provide direct references)

Reasoning #3: _____

- What evidence is presented to develop this point? (List and provide direct references)

(You may add more reasons, if applicable)

Part II: Author Purpose

What are some issues this memoir has made you think about? Consider the following:

- points of interest
- what isn't addressed
- weak / flawed reasoning
- biases

Author Purpose: What is the author's purpose? Inform the audience? Persuade? Entertain? Explain.