

## AP LANGUAGE SUMMER ASSIGNMENT 2017

**A. Required Reading-** All Titles are available through the Greenfield Public Library (<http://www.greenfieldpubliclibrary.org/>) and the C/W Mars interlibrary loan program (<http://www.cwmars.org/>).

Each student will be required to read **TWO** of the following titles:

*American Childhood* by Annie Dillard

*Angela's Ashes* by Frank McCourt

*The Devil in the White City: Murder, Magic, and Madness at the Fair that Changed America*  
by Erik Larson

*Thunderstruck* by Erik Larson

*The Botany of Desire* by Michael Pollan

*Consider the Lobster and other essays* by David Foster Wallace

*Flag of our Fathers* by James Bradley

*The Other Wes Moore* by Wes Moore

*The immortal life of Henrietta Lacks* by Rebecca Skloot.

*A long way gone : memoirs of a boy soldier* by Ishmael Beah.

*Midnight in the garden of good and evil : a Savannah story* by James Berendt

*Blink* by Malcolm Gladwell

*David and Goliath* by Malcolm Gladwell

*Outliers* by Malcolm Gladwell

*Tipping Point* by Malcolm Gladwell

*Where Men Win Glory: The Odyssey of Pat Tillman* by Jon Krakauer

*Missoula: Rape and Justice System in a College Town* by Jon Krakauer

*Black Like Me* by John Howard Griffin

*Endurance* by Alfred Lansing

*1776* by David McCullough

*Nickled and Dimed in America* by Barbara Ehrenreich

*A Walk in the Woods* by Bill Bryson

*Born to Run: A Hidden Tribe, Superathletes, and the Greatest Race the World Has Never Seen*  
by Christopher McDougall

*The Autobiography of Malcolm X* as told to Alex Haley

*Outcasts United: an American town, a refugee team, and one woman's quest to make a difference* by  
Warren St. John

*The Devil's Highway* by Luis Alberto Urrea

*Funny in Farsi : a memoir of growing up Iranian in America* by Firoozeh Dumas.

*Tender at the Bone* by Ruth Reichl

*Fall River Dreams* by Bill Reynolds

*Newjack: Guarding Sing Sing* by Ted Conover

*The Routes of Man: Travels in the Paved World* by Ted Conover

## **B. Double Entry Journals**

In preparation for the AP Test, we will be reading a variety of nonfiction as part of our summer reading. Students will complete a reader's response journal of thoughts and reactions as they read. This journal will be a double-entry journal that will contain (15) significant passages from each of the books. The passages can be of various lengths, but each must be a minimum of three sentences and will be written on the left-hand side of your page. The passages should be reflective of the entire text.

A significant passage can illustrate: insight into the author or character, prominent themes, or the use of tone, imagery, symbolism, or irony or other rhetorical devices.

\*Why is it significant?

Reading and reflection helps you become a better writer and increases your vocabulary!! Please analyze the passages you find relevant in your reading. Also include vocabulary words that seem unfamiliar to you by making a vocabulary list. Look up these words.

The right side of the page is the student response to the passage.

Some questions you may wish to consider in composing these responses are:

What is the author trying to tell you that is not written on the page?

How does the passage make you feel?

Can you predict what might happen next?

What insight have you gotten from this particular book?

What tone does the essay contain? Why?

What rhetorical devices are creating this tone?

What purpose is the purpose of the writing ... expository, persuasive, personal narrative?

What specific devices can you pick out that this author tends to use in these to shape the tone and style?

Students will turn in a Double Entry Journal and Vocabulary list for each book they choose. Each journal response should be a minimum of 50 words. **THESE MUST BE TYPED!**

You can set these up using a table inserted into a word document.

**\*\*See attached SAMPLE DOUBLE ENTRY JOURNAL**

### C. Participation in New York Times Annual Summer Reading Contest.

Students will submit the ten links to their ten responses to the Contest.

<https://www.nytimes.com/2017/04/27/learning/the-eighth-annual-new-york-times-summer-reading-contest.html>

\*\*See attached rules

The submission below is an exemplar.

1. June 28, 2012 2:54 pm [Link](#)

I, like many of my fellow adrenaline pumped and easily excitable Americans, look forward to the Olympic games every year. The energy of competition and revelry of global rivalry does its job of tugging at my patriotic heartstrings. But the topic of grass? Not so many feelings there. What interested me in “Wimbledon’s Guardians of Grass Face a Challenging Summer” was the dramatization of the critical role grass really does, in fact, play. Grass, in its general context, is considered among the most mundane of subjects, a topic of some jest within the article.

However, as I continued to read, the dull stereotype of “watching the grass grow,” transformed into a story of adversity and growth (even if the adversity was a struggle between different varieties of rye grass- it’s irrelevant). This change evidences the real appeal of journalism: real life story telling in which any topic can become relevant and moving. I was also very interested to read about the environment of care and consideration going into the grass. The Trueness meter, for example, proved to me that grass enthusiasts (or greenskeepers, as they’re conventionally called), are willing to pay \$18,700 in order to maintain a constant and level ground. Or on the other hand, how the construction of the retractable roof had to be altered in order to fit the grass’ needs.

In other words, the grass, in fulfilling its role as a modern botanical diva, thrives under careful care, just as any other living being must also be nurtured. And, even world-class experts on grass have trouble with that task. So, as the Olympic Games draw closer and closer, let the grass be a symbol of universal human effort. Someone will win that turf, and crowds will cheer, inevitably. But in the end, as Eddie Seaward puts it, “It’s just grass,” and we’re all just human.(309 words)

— *Lainie\_GHS\_2012*