

To: Prospective AP English Language and Composition Students
From: Mrs. Heidi Cohoon—C-SDHS Instructor
Date: June 2018
Subject: Summer Reading Project

Project Requirements:

Select one of the College Board approved texts (or a nonfiction book of your choice) on the following page. As you read, respond to each of the following questions in a paragraph comprised of a minimum of 8 sentences. **You will be assessed on the quality of responses, including: complete sentences, text support, details, and grammar usage.** Please type the question above each response and format your work according to MLA requirements.

1. What is the significance of the title, and what can be inferred from the title before opening the text?
2. What is your visceral reaction to the text, and why did you react this way?
3. What is the most important event or passage in the text and why?
4. What parts distract from the work's overall effectiveness and why?
5. What dominate themes permeate the text?
6. What patterns did you discover in the text?
7. What confuses you or makes you wonder about the text?
8. What questions do you have after reading the text?
9. Would you read another book by the same author? Explain why or why not.
10. What effect does the book have on your personal beliefs, thoughts, and/or theories? Explain.

Guidelines:

- Credit for the assignment will be earned by those who complete the project.
- **This project grade can later be substituted (at student request) for a low grade earned on a completed formative assessment in AP English Language and Composition.**
- If a student does not complete the summer project, he/she will not receive a zero.
- The summer reading project will not be tied in with any additional assignment (i.e. timed writing or test) once school starts.
- As with every class assignment, all summer reading work should be original. Do not wait until the last minute to begin your work. Most students plagiarize because they feel that they do not have enough time to be honest. Your instructor is interested in your original thoughts and ideas, so leave yourself enough time to carefully and thoughtfully complete this assignment.

Deadline: September 7, 2018—it will not be accepted after this date. Email to cohoonh@dcpsmd.org.

College Board Suggested Texts:

Bragg, Rich	<i>All Over But the Shoutin'</i>
Dillard, Annie	<i>Pilgrim at Tinker Creek, The Living, The Writing Life</i>
Capote, Truman	<i>In Cold Blood</i>
Ehrenreich, Barbara	<i>Nickel and Dime</i>
Gladwell, Malcolm	<i>Outliers: The Story of Success</i>
Heat-Moon, William Least	<i>Blue Highways, Prairie Earth, River-Horse</i>
Hurston, Zora Neale	<i>Their Eyes Were Watching God</i>
Junger, Sebastian	<i>The Perfect Storm</i>
Kerbel, Matthew R.	<i>If It Bleeds, It Leads: An Anatomy of Television News</i>
Krakauer, Jon	<i>Into the Wild</i>
Krakauer, Klein	<i>All But My Life Into Thin Air</i>
Lee, Helie	<i>Still Life with Rice</i>
Levitt, Steven D. and Stephen J. Dubner	<i>Freakonomics</i>
McCann, Colin	<i>Song Dogs</i>
Moore, Michael	<i>Stupid, White Men</i>
Nafisi, Azar	<i>Reading Lolita in Tehran</i>
O'Brien, Tim	<i>The Things They Carried</i>
Oliver, Mary	<i>Blue Pastimes</i>
O'Rourke, P.J.	<i>Give War a Chance</i>
Ozeki, Ruth L.	<i>My Year of Meats</i>
Philbrick, Nathaniel	<i>In the Heart of the Sea</i>
Postman, Neil	<i>Amusing Ourselves to Death</i>
Pausch and Jeffrey Zaslow	<i>The Last Lecture</i>
Robbins, Alexandra	<i>The Overachievers: The Secret Loves of Driven Kids</i>
Schlosser, Eric	<i>Fast Food Nation</i>
Seierstad, Asne	<i>The Bookseller of Kabul</i>
Shakur, Sanyika	<i>Monster</i>
Spiegelman, Art	<i>Maus I and II</i>
Warren, Robert Penn	<i>All the King's Men</i>
Wolff, Tobias	<i>In Pharaoh's Army</i>
Wright, Richard	<i>Black Boy</i>