

11-AP Language and Composition Summer Reading/Work

This course will focus on non-fiction writing and the rhetorical strategies writers utilize to make their writing persuasive. If you have ANY questions or concerns over the summer, email Mrs. Sica at: psica@bishopbrady.edu

You will read THREE books this summer: one non-fiction, one fiction, and one memoir. All the assignments are attached and are **due the first week of school.** To assist you in your selections, I recommend reading an online synopsis of the books which interest you. Amazon Books And Good Reads are two places that typically have valuable information. Good luck- have fun choosing. Happy Reading!

NON-FICTION (Pick 1):

1. *Just Mercy: A Story of Justice and Redemption* by Brian Stephenson
2. *Nickel and Dimed in America: On Not Getting by in America* by Barbara Ehrenreich
3. *Thunderstruck* by Erik Larson
4. *Quiet: The Power of Introverts in a World That Can't Stop Talking* by Susan Cain
5. *The Unwanted: Stories of the Syrian Refugees* (Graphic Novel) by Don Brown

FICTION (Pick 1)

1. *The Bean Trees* by Barbara Kingsolver
2. *The Things They Carried* by Tim O'Brien
3. *Little Fires Everywhere* by Celeste Ng
4. *This Tender Land* by Kent Krueger
5. *The Hate You Give* by Angie Thomas (pairs well with *The Other Wes Moore*-see below and *Just Mercy*-see above)

MEMOIR (Pick 1)

1. *Educated* by Tara Westover
2. *Becoming* by Michelle Obama
3. *Crying in H Mart: A Memoir* by Michelle Zauner
4. *Law Man: Memoir of a Jailhouse Lawyer* by Shon Hopwood (This book pairs well with *Just Mercy*- see above under Non-Fiction)
5. *When Breath Becomes Air* by Paul Kalanithi

PLAGIARISM STATEMENT

I certify that this assignment/report is my own work, based on my personal study and/or research and that I have acknowledged all material and sources used in its preparation, whether they be books, articles, reports, lecture notes, and any other kind of document, electronic or personal communication. I

also certify that this assignment/report has not previously been submitted for assessment in any other course.

AP Language and Composition Summer Reading Assignments.

All written work is to be typed and adhere to MLA formatting. Go to [Purdue Owl](#) if you have questions regarding correct formatting. If you have any other questions or concerns, please do not hesitate to contact me: psica@bishopbrady.edu

You are required to read THREE books this summer. You will be assessed on them in the following ways:

1. A timed in-class Literary Analysis Essay relating to your **fiction selection** will be given within the first two weeks of school, and the specific will be set on the first day of class. I recommend that you write a quick paragraph summary, in your own words, after each chapter to help you during the writing assessment
2. For the **memoir** that you read, you will do a project designed to identify 4 life lessons learned by the author and the causes/experiences that brought about their wisdom. Select the type of project that will best allow you to tap into your **creativity** and accomplish your **purpose**. Your purpose is to “sell” the book (*think*: ethos, pathos, logos) and you will do that by sharing compelling, significant life lessons. **(Be sure you do not mistake your purpose as doing a review or overview of the text)**

Some ideas are:

- Poster and oral presentation
- Podcast
- Photojournalism presentation
- Documentary/video
- 3-D artifact and oral presentation
- Idea of your own approved via email by Mrs. Sica.

Project will be graded on the following traits:

- Engagement
- Attention to Aesthetics (detail, neatness, balance, color, etc.)
- Creativity-- do NOT do “ordinary”
- Effective Communication-- you accomplish your purpose
- Elements of writing

3. For the **Non-fiction piece**, **annotate** following the attached information titled “Annotating Non-fiction” **and create 5 open-ended questions** following the attached information titled “Crafting Open-Ended Questions.” Your questions should be typewritten. The rationale for this assignment is that throughout the year you will need to create open-ended questions as preparation for Socratic Seminars. Do not hesitate to

contact me if you are unsure of what to do or need to ask clarifying questions about the assignment. These books will be collected and you will receive a grade for your annotations based on the attached guide (“Annotating Non-fiction”).

Annotating Non-fiction (Connects to assignment #3)

Pre-reading:

1. Circle the title and consider what it means by asking a question about the title.
2. Identify information about the author, source, and publication date.
3. Skim through the piece and turn all subheadings into questions. (this may/may not apply to your book)
4. Circle all unusual text features
5. Identify the topic/subject and WRITE anything you already know about the topic and anything you want to know about the topic. (Inside front and back covers)

During reading:

1. Mark the text. (Best to do this in small sections like a chapter or sub-section)
3. Identify and underline the thesis.(Oftentimes found in the Introduction if there is one.)
4. Make note of both the use and effect of:
 - parallel structure,
 - repetition,
 - restatement
 - rhetorical questions
 - rhetorical appeals: ethos, pathos logos
5. Underline signal/cue words that help you identify the text structure:
 - cause and effect,
 - compare and contrast,
 - chronological
 - problem solution
6. Put parentheses around vocabulary- write definition in the margin
8. Write in the margins:
 - Summary of paragraphs
 - Predictions of what you think might be coming
 - Formulate opinions (agree or disagree with the author)
 - Make connections to anything: other texts, dates, opinions, people, etc.
 - Identify and analyze the author’s
 - a. point of view (narrator’s perspective)
 - b. tone (attitude toward subject)
 - c. diction (style of speaking and word choice)
 - d. syntax (sentences and their patterns; order of words in a sentence)

After Reading:

1. Complete this statement, “The author’s purpose for writing this is...”
2. If you can’t answer author’s purpose questions, go back and reread the introduction and conclusion.

3. Go back to the title and answer your question and reflect on the significance of the title.
Write your thoughts on the Title Page of your book. (See #1 under pre-reading above)

WHEN YOU ANNOTATE, YOU CANNOT DO EVERYTHING AT ONCE!!!--SELECT 2 OR THREE THINGS TO FOCUS ON WHEN YOU ARE ANNOTATING. SWITCH THOSE UP EVERY FEW CHAPTERS.

Crafting Open-Ended Questions (Connects with assignment #3, also)

Imagine you are hosting a Book Club and you will be the leader. Then type (MLA Format) Five (5) **open-ended discussion questions** (see below for further clarification) that will cultivate conversation around the big ideas of the text. These are questions that cannot be answered in a word or a sentence and will not have a single, final, and correct answer; but rather are thought-provoking and intellectually engaging. They are likely to spur debate and disagreement and may raise additional questions or spark a desire to know more. Open-ended questions will require support and justification not just an answer.

For example, consider these two questions in relation to the novel *To Kill a Mockingbird*:

1. Is Bob Ewell racist?
2. Have race relations in the United States continued to improve since the 1930's?

The first question is text related and can be answered using information taken directly from the book. It can be answered in 2-3 sentences.

The second question is open-ended. It clearly relates to *To Kill a Mockingbird* but goes far beyond the content of the novel itself. It could be discussed for days and still, those in discussion may not come to a definitive answer. Certainly, evidence could be taken from the text to argue your point, but so too could evidence and support come from examples, ideas, and information far beyond the text. Some people might argue from a positive perspective while others might have a rather negative perspective. These are the type of questions you are being asked to create.

Please email me if you need clarification or have questions.

