

Summer Reading Assignment – AP Language & Composition
2021-2022 School Year
Mrs. Wright

Advanced Placement Language & Composition will be a year filled with reading and writing – and your ability to bring your original ideas on both concepts to the class. This summer reading assignment will give you an opportunity to showcase your skills, while acting as a starting point for improvement throughout the year. Please read *and* complete the following assignment; submit your assignment by Friday, 9/10/21. **Note: In order to have a successful first marking period and school year, completion of the summer reading assignment is vital. Failure to do so will place your first marking period grade in serious jeopardy.** Good luck, have a great summer, and see you next year!

You must read **two** books this summer. Every student must read *Animal Farm* and then one book of his or her choice from the list below. You do not have to buy the books; you can borrow them from the public library. **For each book you select, you are to keep a comprehensive journal ten entries:**

Part I: *Animal Farm* - Choose **TEN SIGNIFICANT PASSAGES/QUOTES per book** (include the page numbers) and a short explanation about why each was so compelling. Write out the quote and include a parenthetical citation with the page number. Be sure to reflect on not only the meaning of the passage but the language of the passage. How is the diction, syntax, tone, placement of the passage in relation to the whole, significant? How did this particular passage impact you as a reader? Make sure to number each quote from one to ten. You may do a side by side double-entry journal, or you may write out the quote with the parenthetical citation, and then write your response underneath.

Part I: Student Choice Book - Choose **TEN SIGNIFICANT PASSAGES/QUOTES per book** (include the page numbers) and a short explanation about why each was so compelling. Write out the quote and include a parenthetical citation with the page number. Be sure to reflect on not only the meaning of the passage but the language of the passage. How is the diction, syntax, tone, placement of the passage in relation to the whole, significant? How did this particular passage impact you as a reader? Make sure to number each quote from one to ten. You may do a side by side double-entry journal, or you may write out the quote with the parenthetical citation, and then write your response underneath.

Make sure you arrive in September with more than a cursory understanding of the books you choose, and be prepared to discuss your thoughts, ideas, and findings the first day of school. You may choose from the following options:

A Whole New Mind – Daniel Pink

Blink – Malcolm Gladwell

The Shallows: What the Internet is Doing to Our Brain – Nicholas Carr

A Walk in the Woods – Bill Bryson

Yes, Chef: A Memoir – Marcus Samuelsson

Animal Farm – George Orwell

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Book Synopses

A Whole New Mind: Why Right Brainers will Rule the Future- Daniel Pink

Drawing on research from around the advanced world, Daniel Pink outlines the six fundamentally human abilities that are essential for professional success and personal fulfillment- and reveals how to master them. From a laughter club in Bombay to an inner-city high school devoted to design, to a lesson on how to detect an insincere smile, *A Whole New Mind* takes readers to a daring new place and offers a provocative and urgent new thinking about a future that has already arrived.

Blink- Malcolm Gladwell

Drawing on cutting edge neuroscience and psychology to reveal the difference between good decision making and bad has less to do with how much information we process than with our ability to focus on a few particular details. Malcolm Gladwell shows how we all can become better decision makers- in our homes, in our offices, and in everyday lives.

The Shallows: What the Internet is Doing to Our Brains– Nicholas Carr

Building on the insights of thinkers from Plato to McLuhan, Nicholas Carr makes a convincing case that every information technology carries an intellectual ethic- a set of assumptions about the nature of knowledge and intelligence. *The Shallows* takes on the newest information technology- the internet; and raises the question that as we become more adept at scanning and skimming are we also losing our capacity for concentration, contemplation, and reflection. Could Google be making us stupid?

A Walk in the Woods– Bill Bryson

The Appalachian Trail stretches from Georgia to Maine and covers some of the most breathtaking terrain in America. If you are going to take a hike, it's probably the place to go. And Bill Bryson is surely the most entertaining guide you'll find. *A Walk in the Woods* contains the history and ecology of the trail and some of the other hardy (or just fool hardy) folks Bryson meets along the way- and a couple of bears!

Yes, Chef: A Memoir – Marcus Samuelsson (paperback released 5/21/2013)

The inspiring story chronicling an adopted boy's journey from Ethiopia to the kitchen of the Swedish grandmother who fueled his love for cooking. The boy would go on to become the world-renowned chef Marcus Samuelsson, the owner of the Harlem restaurant Red Rooster and one of the featured judges on the hit cooking series *Chopped*. This book is his love letter to food and family in all of its manifestations.

Animal Farm – George Orwell

Animal Farm is a short allegorical story published in 1945. A group of farm animals rebel against their farm and try to establish a place where they will be equal and free. In the end, however, power is too much for some of the animals, and abuses of power begin to escalate.