

2020 Summer Reading Assignment

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Summer reading provides an early opportunity to be immersed in the type of texts (mostly nonfiction) with which we will be working with throughout the school year. It also gives students a chance to exercise and become comfortable with specific skills required throughout the class.

Directions

For the reading portion of the AP English Language & Composition summer assignment, students will need to **choose ONE nonfiction book to read**. There are two things that need to be completed with the book:

1. Annotations:

- a. Proof of annotations must be clear. If you buy the book, you can write in it. If not, use post-it notes or some other form of note-taking.
- b. Keep in mind that annotations are not just highlighting sentences. Annotations are quick or little notes that explain your thought or reaction to a phrase, sentence, passage, character, or event in the text.

2. Dialectical Journal:

- a. Instructions and an example for this are below.

Important Notes

- **Students must read one of the books on the attached Book List.** If you have problems or difficulties acquiring a book, please email Mrs. Reed or Ms. Michener; they are more than happy to help.
 - You may purchase a book, download it on a digital reader, or check it out from the school library or public library. But remember that you will still need to have your copy of the book when school starts.
- This work is due on the first day of class.
 - This book and students' knowledge of it will be used in class with assignments during the first unit of the school year. Thus, completion of this assignment guarantees a strong start to the year.

You HAVE to select a book from the book list! If you select something not on the list, your work will not be accepted! If you need help, email Ms. Michener and/or Mrs. Reed.

Book List**Memoirs/Bios**

Walter Issacson: *Steve Jobs*
Kwame Onwuachi: *Notes from a Young Black Chef: A Memoir*
Dave Sobel: *Longitude: The True Story of a Lone Genius Who Solved the Greatest Scientific Problem of his Time*
Trevor Noah: *Born a Crime*
Charles Shields: *And So It Goes: Kurt Vonnegut: A Life*
Alex Haley: *The Autobiography of Malcolm X*
Barack Obama: *Dreams from My Father*
Bob Dylan: *Together Through Life*
Robert Hardy: *A Deeper Blue: The Life and Music of Townes Van Zandt*
Mark Twain: *Autobiography of Mark Twain*
Anges Kamara-Umunna: *And Still Peace Did Not Come*
Rosamond Carr: *Land of a Thousand Hills*
Jean-Dominique Bauby: *The Diving Bell and the Butterfly*
Steve Lopez: *The Soloist*
Greg Grandin: *Fordlandia: The Rise and Fall of Henry Ford's Forgotten Jungle City*
Dave Eggers: *Zeitoun*
Zak Ebrahim *The Terrorist's Son: A Story of Choice*
Homer Hickam: *Rocket Boys*
Sebastian Junger: *The Perfect Storm: A True Story of Men Against the Sea*
Chris Wilson: *The Master Plan: My Journey from Life in Prison to a Life of Purpose*
Kerri Rawson: *A Serial Killer's Daughter: My Story of Faith, Love, and Overcoming*
Robert Persig: *Zen and the Art of Motorcycle Maintenance*
Saroo Brierley: *A Long Way Home: A Memoir*
Charles Seife: *Zero: The Biography of a Dangerous Idea*

Science/Math/Economics

Viktor Mayer-Schonberger: *Big Data*
Oliver Sacks: *The Man Who Mistook His Wife for a Hat; Musicophilia; Hallucinations*
Joshua Foer: *Moonwalking with Einstein*
Neil Degrasse Tyson: *Death by Black Hole*
Steven Strogatz: *Infinite Powers: How Calculus Reveals the Secrets of the Universe*
Dave Sobel: *Longitude: The True Story of a Lone Genius Who Solved the Greatest Scientific Problem of his Time*
Brian Greene: *Fabric of the Cosmos*
E.O. Wilson: *The Diversity of Life*
Sebastian Seung: *Connectome*
Siddhartha Mukherjee: *The Emperor of all Maladies: A Biography of Cancer*
Arika Orkent: *In the Land of Invented Languages*
John McWhorter: *The Power of Babel: A Natural History of Language*
Kate Moore: *The Radium Girls: The Dark Story of America's Shining Women*
Margot Lee Shetterly: *Hidden Figures*

History

Howard Zinn: *A People's History*

Isha Sesay: *Beneath the Tamarind Tree: A Story of Courage, Family, and the Lost Schoolgirls of Boko Haram*

James W. Loewen: *Lies My Teacher Told Me: Everything Your American History Textbook Got Wrong*

S.C. Gwynne: *Empire of the Summer Moon*

John M. Barry: *The Great Influenza: The Story of the Deadliest Pandemic in History*

Mark Kurlansky: *Salt: A World History*

Charles Perkins: *Confessions of an Economic Hitman*

Dee Alexander Brown: *Bury My Heart at Wounded Knee*

Daron Acemoglu, James Robinson: *Why Nations Fail*

Jared Diamond: *Guns, Germs, and Steel*

Barbara Demick: *Nothing to Envy: Ordinary Lives in North Korea*

Daniel Walker Howe: *What Hath God Wrought*

Michael R. Gordon and Bernard E. Trainor: *The End Game*

Stephen Greenblatt: *The Swerve: How the World Became Modern*

Tim Weiner: *Legacy of Ashes: The History of the CIA*

Larry Loftis: *Code Name: Lise: The True Story of the Woman Who Became WWII's Most Highly Decorated Spy*

Jason Fagone: *The Woman Who Smashed Codes: A True Story of Love, Spies, and the Unlikely Heroine Who Outwitted America's Enemies*

Mo Rocca: *Mobituaries: Great Lives Worth Reliving*

Essays

Tressie McMillan Cottom: *Thick: And Other Essays*

Susan Sontag: *Against Interpretation; As Consciousness is Harnessed to Flesh*

Joan Didion: *The Year of Magical Thinking*

John Updike: *Higher Gossip*

Gore Vidal: *United States: Essays 1952-1992*

Milan Kundera: *The Curtain*

Culture

Bryan Stevenson: *Just Mercy*

Jennifer Eberhardt: *Biased: Uncovering the Hidden Prejudice That Shapes What We See, Think, and Do*

Melinda Gates: *The Moment of Lift: How Empowering Women Changes the World*

Elaine Welteroth: *More Than Enough: Claiming Space for Who You Are (No Matter What They Say)*

Andrew Sullivan's: *Virtually Normal*

Daniel Kahneman: *Thinking Fast and Slow*

Susan Cain: *Quiet: The Power of Introverts in a World That Can't Stop Talking*

Nicholas D. Kristof, Sheryl WuDunn: *Half the Sky*

Elaine Pagels: *Revelations*

Thomas Friedman: *The World is Flat*
 Carl Sagan: *The Demon Haunted World*
 His Holiness The Dalai Lama: *Beyond Religion*
 Irina Ratushinskaya: *Grey is the Color of Hope*
 Daniel H. Pink: *Drive*
 Mark Pendergast: *Uncommon Grounds: How Coffee Changed the World*
 Diance Ravitch: *The Language Police*
 Marc Reisner: *Cadillac Desert*
 Michael Pollan: *The Omnivore's Dilemma*
 Azar Nafisi: *Reading Lolita in Tehran*
 Erik Larson: *The Devil in the White City*
 Mary Roach: *Stiff: The Curious Lives of Human Cadavers*
 R. Jay Magill Jr.: *Sincerity*
 Benjamin Barger: *Jihad v. McWorld*
 Stephen King: *On Writing*
 Tom Wolfe: *The Electric Kool Aid Acid Test*
 Raji Esme Codell: *Educating Esme: Diary of a Teacher's First Year*
 Jonathan Mooney: *The Short Bus: A Journey Beyond Normal*
 Eric Schlosser: *Fast Food Nation*
 Barbara Ehrenrich: *Nickel and Dimed: On (Not) Getting by in America*
 Malcolm Gladwell: *Outliers: The Story of Success; David and Goliath: Underdogs, Misfits and the Art of Battling Giants*
 Jonathon Kozol: *Savage Inequalities*
 Jorge Ramos: *Stranger: The Challenge of a Latino Immigrant in the Trump Era*
 Eli Saslow: *Rising Out of Hatred: The Awakening of a Former White Nationalist*
 Dorothy Butler Gilliam: *Trailblazer: A Pioneering Journalist's Fight to Make the Media Look More Like America*
 Tom Brokaw: *The Greatest Generation*

Dialectical Journal

This Dialectical Journal is, essentially, a series of journal entries that demonstrate engagement with the text, an attempt to understand the various arguments presented, and provides a sampling of your best critical thinking.

For your book, complete a chart like the example below. Please be professional—all information must be typed (12 point font, Times New Roman print). In addition, you must:

- Create a heading with your name, the book title, and book author. You only need one heading for each book and you must use proper MLA format.
- Select **10** meaningful passages that adequately draw from the beginning, middle, and end of each text.
- Write out the entire passage to which you will refer and include the page number from which it came.
- Paraphrase or summarize the passage. It will be helpful to provide the context in which it came. In other words, what is happening before and after this passage appears in the text?

- Analyze and react to the passage in full sentences—not notes. This should NOT just be a personal reaction or summary; rather, you should attempt to analyze the methods that the writer uses to make his or her argument. This is where you will show your engagement and reflection. Your analysis should be longer than the selected quotation or passage.

Example set-up: continued on next page . . .

Student First & Last Name
 Teacher’s Name (if known)
 Class
 Date



Dialectical Journal

Book Name: *The Cheating Culture: Why More Americans are Doing Wrong to Get Ahead*
 Author: David Callahan

Quotation/Passage from the text with page number	Paraphrase or Summary	Analyze and React
<p>I played a lot of Monopoly growing up. Like most players of the game, I loved drawing a yellow Community Chest card and discovering a “bank error” that allowed me to collect \$200. It never occurred to me not to take the cash. After all, banks have plenty of money, and if one makes an error in your favor, why argue? I haven’t played Monopoly in twenty years, but I’d still take the \$200 today. And what if a real bank made an error in my favor? That would be a tougher dilemma. Such things do happen. (1)</p>	<p>The author is remembering that a common childhood game had a positive moment when a player received “free” cash because a bank made a mistake. This is the way the book begins and sets up the idea of the Cheating Culture.</p>	<p>By beginning with a reference to a childhood game, the author reminds the audience of something that most people probably remember—not just the game, but the excitement of a “bank error” card. He also issues the question that “banks have plenty of money” so “why argue?” This really mimics what most people would probably say in real life to justify why they should keep money that isn’t rightfully theirs. He moves from this game topic to a suggestion that it could really happen (which he will explain later) and suggests that it would be a “tougher dilemma.” It almost seems like this could be a sarcastic remark. I think many people would just take the money. We tend to view banks as huge institutions that they will not miss a few rogue dollars here and there. This idea that Wall Street continues to pay out bonuses while the “little guy” is barely getting by or may not even have a job is especially prevalent now. By this question, the author seems to be trying to get us to ask if we can even justify that type of thinking. Is this the right decision to make?</p>