

# AP Language and Composition

## Summer Assignment Overview

**I am quite excited you have decided to take the Advanced Placement Language and Composition with me. The primary focus of this course is on the rhetorical analysis of nonfiction literature. This means reading a work of non-fiction and analyzing the strategies the author uses to create an effective argument/message. Therefore, I have designed your summer assignment with this objective in mind. I know this could be something new for you, so all I ask is for you to put in your best effort.**

**Additionally, I have created a Google Classroom for our course. This way you can post questions and access the assignment.**

**Please join @ [yzzrd22](#).**

### **Assignment:**

1. Choose a nonfiction novel from the list at the bottom of this document.
  - a. If you would like to read something that is not on the list, please email me with the title and author and I will let you know if it seems appropriate for the objective.
  - b. You are going to want your book when you return to school. So, if you use a library copy over the summer, be sure to plan to take it out again.
2. While you read, you should use good reading strategies, such as using post-it notes to mark important passages, questions, intriguing information, etc.
3. Last, but not least, you are to complete the document of questions assigned on Google Classroom. You will submit it through Google Classroom. You will be writing an essay on this book during the first week of school. You are going to need to have a good grasp of your book. If you read it early in the summer, be sure to review it if needed.

## A.P. Language and Composition Summer Reading List (2022)

**\*You can also explore other books by the same authors or other books. If you find a book you want that is not on this list, just email me with the title and I will check it out and make sure it works.**

Abdul-Jabbar, Kareem. *On the Shoulders of Giants. My Journey Through the Harlem Renaissance.*

Albright, Madeline. *Prague Winter: A Personal Story of Remembrance and War, 1937-1948*

Ambrose, Stephen. *Undaunted Courage: Meriwether Lewis, Thomas Jefferson, and the Opening of the American West.*

Arsenault, Raymond. *Freedom Riders: 1961 and the Struggle for Racial Justice.*

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

Beavan, Colin. *No Impact Man: The Adventures of a Guilty Liberal Who Attempts to Save the Planet and the Discoveries He Makes about Himself and Our Way of Life.*

Bourdain, Anthony. *Kitchen Confidential*

Bradley, James. *Flags of Our Fathers.*

Bradley, James. *Flyboys.*

Bryson, Bill. *A Walk in the Woods.*

Capote, Truman. *In Cold Blood.*

Clinton, Hillary. *Hard Choices*

Coates, Ta-Nehisi. *Between the World and Me*

Dawidoff, Nicholas. *The Catcher was a Spy: The Mysterious Life of Moe Berg.*

Eagon, Timothy. *The Worst Hard Time: The Untold Story of Those Who Survived the Great American Dust Bowl*.

Ellis, Joseph J. *American Creation*.

Ellis, Joseph J. *Founding Brothers*.

Ehrenreich, Barbara. *Nickel and Dimed: On (Not) Getting By in America*.

Gates, Henry Louis Jr. *The Stony Road: Reconstruction, White Supremacy, and the Rise of Jim Crow*

Gawande, Atul. *Complications: A Surgeon's Notes on an Imperfect Science*.

Gladwell, Malcolm. *The Tipping Point: How Little Things Can Make a Big Difference*

Gladwell, Malcom. *Blink: The Power of Thinking Without Thinking*

Gladwell, Malcom. *Outliers*

Goodwin, Doris Kearns. *Team of Rivals: The Political Genius of Abraham Lincoln*.

Hemingway, Ernest, *A Moveable Feast*

Hickman, Homer Jr. *Rocket Boys* (also published as *October Sky*).

Hillenbrand, Laura. *Seabiscuit: An American Legend*.

Hillenbrand, Laura. *Unbroken A World War II Story of Survival, Resilience, and Redemption*.

Krakauer, Jon. *Into the Wild*.

Kurlansky, Mark. *Salt: A World History*.

Larson, Eric. *The Devil and the White City: Murder, Magic, and Madness at the Fair That Changed America*

Leavey, Jane. *The Last Boy: Mickey Mantle and the End of America's Childhood*.

Least Heat-Moon, William *Blue Highways*

Levitt, Steve D. *Freakonomics: A Rogue Economist Explores the Hidden Side of Everything*.

McCollough, David. *1776*.

McCourt, Frank. *Angela's Ashes*

McPhee, John. *Silk Parachute*

Navasky, Victor S. *Naming Names.*

Obama, Michelle. *Becoming*

Orlean, Susan. *The Orchid Thief*

Philbrick, Nathaniel. *In the Heart of the Sea.*

Philbrick, Nathaniel. *Mayflower: A Story of Courage, Community and War.*

Quart, Alissa, *Branded: The Buying and Selling of Teenagers*

Roberts, Cokie. *Founding Mothers: The Women Who Raised Our Nation.*

Toobin, Jeffrey. *The Run of His Life: The People v. O. J. Simpson*

Walls, Jeannette. *The Glass Castle*

Wolfe, Tom. *The Right Stuff.*