

Summer Reading & Vocabulary

AP English Language and Composition
2018-2019

CONGRATULATIONS! YOU'VE ACCEPTED THE CHALLENGE TO ENROLL IN AP ENGLISH LANGUAGE AND TO GROW AS READERS, WRITERS, AND THINKERS. TO CONTINUE TO PRACTICE THESE SKILLS, I'VE SELECTED A READING MENU FOR YOUR ENJOYMENT THIS SUMMER.

Community Book

The Community Book is required for all of us. *Outliers* by Malcolm Gladwell is an excellent example of a precise, well-developed and powerful argument. Oh, also, he claims to have the secret to success, so...there's that. We will use this work throughout the year as we learn various rhetorical strategies that enhance and strengthen our writing. You should find a way to annotate your own copy of this book so that you can easily access a detailed record of your thinking during a timed write when we return.

Additional Nonfiction Book

Choose one (or more) from the list. We need to read great writing in many forms. This menu is a collection of vivid memoirs, gritty reporting and moral dilemmas. Please choose one and read it the same way you read our community book – for deep understanding and with detailed notes in the margins that remind you of what it made you think, feel, or wonder at any given moment. They are all interesting in their own way. Be sure to read reviews before you choose. If your first choice is not the page-turner you thought it'd be, then please allow yourself to switch. Enjoy the book. That is the priority.

Choose from the following:

1. *Nickel and Dimed: On (Not) Getting By in America*, by Barbara Ehrenreich
2. *Something Like Gods: A Cultural History of the athlete from Achilles to LeBron*, by Stephen Amidon
3. *The Immortal Life of Henrietta Lacks*, by Rebecca Skloot
4. *Alive: The Story of the Andes Survivors*, by Piers Paul Read
5. *Barbarian Days: A Surfing Life*, by William Finnegan

Periodically check the website

www.stahlbushap.com for updates on my own reflections. As I post some reactions to these texts, you'll get a sense of what types of questions I may ask in terms of timed writing prompts. Use those insights to organize your own thinking around how those themes, values, dilemmas, claims, or evidence are present in the books you are enjoying. During the first week of school, I'll pose one overarching question about our community book and we will all respond in writing. I'll also provide a short menu of prompt choices for a second timed writing. Since you chose the book, you may also choose the prompt. Select the question that will allow you to best showcase your insight and your interpretation of your chosen book.

Vocabulary

[Here](#) is a Quizlet link to your Honors 3-4 Vocabulary. Your assignment over the summer is to keep these words alive. You'll have 2-3 vocabulary quizzes during the first week of school. Watch our website for tips and tutorials on how to best study and prepare for these quizzes. . If you know what the terms mean, then the clues and the context will be comprehensible.