

ACADEMY FOR ADVANCED ACADEMICS
AP English Language and Composition--Mrs. Adams

The summer reading assignment is simple. Enjoy reading literary works of merit. For your required reading, be prepared to complete an in-class, timed writing assignment. Please note that it is certainly appropriate to read supplemental material of explanation or analysis. However, you will be held accountable for reading the exact words on the page. The exam(s) will NOT cover Cliffs, Spark Notes, or any film version. You are responsible for the written words on the page.

The examination(s) will be given at any time during the first week of school, quite possibly the first day of class. Please be prepared. No extensions will be granted.

*Seniors, if you plan to ask for a letter of recommendation, please make sure that you have completed your summer assignment in its entirety.

You are required to read at least TWO works of nonfiction. Please choose from the following list. You must be reading your selected works for the first time; you may not choose a book that you have read previously. There are many options of various lengths. Read reviews. Choose something that you will like and that is appropriate for you. Yes, you may read all the books if you desire. Feel free to share books with classmates.

Animal, Vegetable, Miracle: A Year of Food Life
Barbara Kingsolver (2007)

Becoming Michelle Obama
Michelle Obama (2018)

The Color of Water
James McBride (1995)

The Diary of a Young Girl
Anne Frank (1947)

Educated
Tara Westover (2017)

Farewell to Manzanar
Jeanne Wakatsuki Huston (1974)

The Glass Castle
Jeannette Walls (2005)

Heartbreaker: A Memoir
Mike Campbell (2025)

Hiroshima
John Hersey (1946)

Hunger Makes Me a Modern Girl
Carrie Brownstein (2016)

I Know Why the Caged Bird Sings
Maya Angelou (1969)

The Immortal Life of Henrietta Lacks,
Rebecca Skloot (2010)

In Cold Blood
Truman Capote (1966)

Life
Keith Richards (2010)

Me Talk Pretty One Day
David Sedaris (2000)

Midnight in the Garden of Good and Evil
John Berendt (1994)

The Millionaire Next Door
Thomas J. Stanley, William D. Danko
(Try for the most updated version possible, but any will do)

My Life in France
Julia Child and Alex Prud'homme (2007)

Night
Elie Wiesel (1960)

Open Book
Jessica Simpson (2020)

The Oregon Trail
Rinker Buck (2015)

The Other Wes Moore
Wes Moore (2011)

Rich Dad, Poor Dad
Robert T. Kiyosaki (2000)

Wild
Cheryl Strayed (2012)

The Warren Buffett Way
Robert G. Hagstrom (2013)

*If there is a nonfiction book that you have been looking forward to reading but is not on the list, please reach out to me at the very beginning of the summer to approve your alternate suggestion. Some of my favorite books were recommended to me by students.

**OPTIONAL
SUMMER READING!!**

Read one! Read two or three! Read all! (Read none.)

Extra credit will be awarded based on any of the following methods: teacher/student discussions, and/or essays, and/or short answers, and/or quizzes. The awarding of extra credit does not apply to any novel you have read prior to this summer. If you desire to participate, please choose something appropriate for you from the following list.

Fiction

The Alchemist, Paulo Coelho
All the Light We Cannot See, Anthony Doerr
Beloved, Toni Morrison
Brooklyn, Colm Toibin
Children of Blood and Bone, Tomi Adeyemi
The Color Purple, Alice Walker
Girl with a Pearl Earring, Tracy Chevalier
Flowers for Algernon, Daniel Keyes
Half of a Yellow Sun, Chimamanda Ngozi Adichie
The Handmaid's Tale, Margaret Atwood
The Help, Kathryn Stockett
The House of the Spirits, Isabel Allende
The Last Thing You Surrender, Leonard Pitts
Little Women, Louisa May Alcott
Lord of the Flies, William Golding
Memoirs of a Geisha, Arthur Golden
Native Son, Richard Wright
One Day in the Life of Ivan Denisovich, Aleksandr Solzhenitsyn
Push, Sapphire
Pride and Prejudice, Jane Austen
Prodigal Summer, Barbara Kingsolver
To Kill a Mockingbird, Harper Lee
The Secret Life of Bees, Sue Monk Kidd
Shanghai Girls, Lisa See
The Things They Carried, Tim O'Brien
Where the Crawdads Sing, Delia Owens
1984, George Orwell (1949)