

Dear AP Language Student,

Welcome to AP Language and Composition! AP Lang is designed to provide you with a wide variety of thinking and writing challenges. The following summer reading assignment will help prepare you for these challenges.

Follow these steps carefully:

Part 1, Memoir Choice:

1. Read **ONE** of the following memoirs/nonfiction works and complete annotations in it.
 - *A Long Way Gone* by Ishmael Beah
 - *Crying in H Mart* by Michelle Zauner***
 - *Educated* by Tara Westover***
 - *The Glass Castle* by Jeanette Walls***
 - *Into Thin Air* by Jon Krakauer***
 - *The Naked Don't Fear the Water* by Matthieu Aikins***
 - *The Other Wes Moore* by Wes Moore***



Annotations should note information about the author or narrator, structure, purpose or message, selection of details, and inclusion of such rhetorical choices as anecdotes, comparisons, imagery, definitions etc. Additionally, take note of significant diction and syntax that might indicate tone.

*** denotes a book that is not on the [LPS High School Approved titles list](#) but is recommended by the AP Lang team of teachers.

Take some time to determine which book you choose to read. While some books are longer than others, they have a wide variety of subject matter. The goal is to put a book in your hand that you will enjoy reading and remember-- not to pick a book you can finish quickly and forget about. These books will be very important to the essays we write next year.

Part 2, Literature:

1. Read *The Great Gatsby* by F. Scott Fitzgerald
2. **Annotate throughout the novel by marking directly on the pages.** Take notes regarding plot development, character analysis, and thematic revelations. Your annotations should indicate that you paid careful attention to the book and noticed impactful moments. You do *not* need to identify every usage of figurative language, but show genuine interaction with the text.

Grades:

- Annotations of both the novel and memoir (due the first day of class)
- In class assignments based on summer reading upon return (including an exam on *The Great Gatsby* and a summer reading essay within the first few days of school)

Sincerely,

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AP English Language and Composition teachers