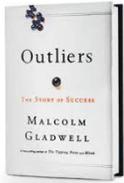


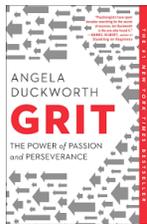
AP LANGUAGE AND COMPOSITION:

English III Summer Reading

1. Choose which book you want to read: *Outliers* by Malcolm Gladwell or *Grit* by Angela Duckworth



Outliers would be my first choice out of the two texts. He has a different case study every chapter with lots of interesting information about different groups of people and cultures. I found a lot of his ideas fascinating and eye-opening, but I also found some of his ideas to be completely absurd and an overgeneralization of races, ethnicities, countries, etc. This is a great quality for a book because in August/January, you will have to debate the ideas/sociological perspectives; therefore, his book is really useful since you can probably agree with some of his ideas but also disagree with others. Plus, he does a really fascinating case study on Bill Gates and hockey players that I really enjoyed.



Grit also provides multiple case studies about groups of people and individuals to develop her argument about grit and its importance in our lives. I was more inspired after reading Duckworth's book and found myself less able to debate her ideas (You can debate her ideas. I wouldn't have assigned it otherwise. I, personally, just found that her theories resonated with me). Duckworth's research focuses more on students and less on different cultures like Gladwell's book.

2. Must purchase a print version of the book to annotate the text. Email me if you have any conflicts with this (I just found *Outliers* on Amazon for \$9.00)
3. Feel free to listen to the texts on audio as you read. Reading well has a lot to do with actually HEARING the words you are reading pronounced aloud with inflection and personality. I listened to both of these books while I read them on my Libby App--the actual app for public libraries. You just have to have a library card number to check out the book on your phone, and it's completely free, while other apps like audible are close to \$15 a month. Regardless of Libby or Audible, you must read these books. The only way for you to improve your reading skills (and your reading timing for the ACT reading) is to constantly practice reading.
4. As you read *Outliers* or *Grit*, keep in mind that **you will either agree or disagree with the author's argument**. Both authors are trying to draw sociological conclusions about our society, and it will be **your job to debate whether the author is correct or not and why you think that** (based on how they develop their claims and argument)
5. **Actual Assignment: At the end of each chapter, you will need two different post-it notes:**
 - a. A paragraph summary of the case study/studies presented within the chapter
 - b. A few sentences where you explain whether you agree or disagree with the findings of this chapter and why.
6. **Wait until July to start reading *Outliers* or *Grit*. We will discuss both texts in **DETAIL** the first week of school, so it is much better for it to be fresh in your mind. Make sure to bring the book with your annotations and post-it notes the first day of school.**
7. Email me if you have any questions: rachel.bryant@bossierschools.org

