

Arrowhead Union High School
Language Arts Department
Book Rationale

Per DPI Standards- Instruction and instructional materials for English Language Arts promote identity exploration by providing opportunities for every student to access learning and communicate understanding across race, gender, ethnicity, language, ability, sexual orientation, family background, and/or family income (p.77)

Book Title and Author	<i>Educated</i> by Tara Westover
Course	AP English Language and Composition, Modern Literature
Teachers	Carol D. Whitehaus and Fritz Rauch

How is this book particularly appropriate for the students in this course?	This piece of nonfiction follows the education journey of Tara Westover from her childhood rural home of Idaho to her PhD from Cambridge. It is a high interest read with many relatable topics for students, especially in regards to issues they may grapple with as they are growing up.
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How is this book especially pertinent to the objectives of this course and/or unit of study?	This is a piece of nonfiction. In addition, education is a frequent topic students must read and write about on the AP Lang exam in May. For formative and summative assessments, which will all help students prepare for the exam in May, students will engage in discussions and argumentative writings about the book.
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Identify any special problems that might arise and list activities/lessons that will address these issues.	Some students might feel a little uncomfortable with the abuse Westover experiences at the hand of her parents. AHS students' parents are encouraged to read with us and discussion questions are sent home.
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Provide a summary of the book.	<u>Amazon Summary</u> : Born to survivalists in the mountains of Idaho, Tara Westover was seventeen the first time she set foot in a classroom. Her family was so isolated from mainstream society that there was no one to ensure the children received an education, and no one to intervene when one of Tara's older brothers became violent. When another brother got himself into college, Tara decided to try a new kind of life. Her quest for knowledge transformed her, taking her over oceans and across continents, to Harvard and to Cambridge University. Only then would she wonder if she'd traveled too far, if there was still a way home.
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List awards or other accolades the book has received.	#1 NEW YORK TIMES, WALL STREET JOURNAL, AND BOSTON GLOBE BESTSELLER, NAMED ONE OF THE TEN BEST BOOKS OF THE YEAR BY THE NEW YORK TIMES BOOK REVIEW, ONE OF PRESIDENT BARACK OBAMA'S FAVORITE BOOKS OF THE YEAR, BILL GATES'S HOLIDAY READING LIST, FINALIST: National Book Critics Circle's
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	Award In Autobiography and John Leonard Prize For Best First Book, PEN/Jean Stein Book Award, <i>Los Angeles Times</i> Book Prize
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