



Cambridge Pre-AICE English 9th & 10th Grade - Summer Assignment

Dear student,

Congratulations on your decision to enter the Cambridge Program! We are truly looking forward to working with you as well as helping you achieve your potential as sharp readers, strong writers, and critical thinkers throughout the 2017-2018 school year.

Below, you will find your summer reading assignment. Please note the due date for all work is **Friday, August 18th**. The purpose of this summer work is to prepare you for the coursework and deep thinking that lies ahead. Your work will also allow your teacher to see how you think, analyze, and write. Please complete these assignments to the best of your ability and please let us know if you have any questions.

Also, please be aware that the college-level literature we are reading may contain mature situations. If at any time you feel uncomfortable with a text we are studying, please contact your teacher for an alternative title. These summer assignments are modified from other Cambridge teachers, ensuring that you will be prepared to advance throughout the Cambridge Program!

We look forward to a great year!

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Memoir Selection - Due: Friday, August 18th

Select ONE memoir for your summer reading. A *memoir*, by definition, covers a specific period of time or experience within a person's life. It is non-fiction and gives a glance into the life and experiences of another real person. You may select any memoir that you have not previously read. We will include examples on the following page, but you are welcome to go beyond this list. If you're concerned, you can email your teacher about your selection for approval.

If you purchase or find your own copy, please make annotations throughout the text while you read. If you do not purchase your own copy, keep paper - lined notebook paper or sticky notes - with you to jot down your thoughts as they happen. Keep your notes specific so you can link your thinking directly back to the text itself. This skill will be something we will practice all year! Please also note some of the texts listed below can be found, in full, online.

Below, you will find memoir examples. Feel free to research a memoir that most appeals to you - and one that you will enjoy reading!

I am Malala by Malala Yousafzai
The Glass Castle by Jeanette Walls
Night by Elie Weisel
The Diary of a Young Girl by Anne Frank
Funny in Farsi by Faroozeh Dumas
A Long Way Home by Ishmael Beah

This Star Won't Go Out by Ester Earl
Laughing at My Nightmare by Shane Burcaw
Soul Surfer by Bethany Hamilton
No Summit out of Sight by Jordan Romero
The Boy on the Wooden Box by Leon Leyson

Memoir Selection Assignments

1. **READ your book carefully.** While reading, **feel free to make annotations to illustrate your thinking.** Good annotations (or notes) tend to enhance comprehension and retention of ideas. If annotating is new to you: don't make it harder than it is! Annotations should be marks of moments that stand out, times where you question ideas, note examples of growth or change in characters, or even identify descriptions that are particularly well written. Annotations should be handwritten (either in a book itself, on sticky notes in a book, or on separate paper).

2. **Rhetorical Triangle Worksheets.** The Rhetorical Triangle is a tool used to help you understand and analyze writing. It looks at three critical components and how they interact in a text. Complete the four worksheets (see following pages) by filling in information as indicated. You are welcome to type or neatly handwrite these assignments. You are also welcome to change the format of each assignment, as long as the assignment is clear and includes all of the information required.

Note: your work on these worksheets **will** be used to complete in-class assignments, including timed writings and discussions. Choose thoughtful quotes from throughout the memoir so you have a variety of moments and ideas to refer to.

3. **Quote Response Paragraphs.** Specific directions for the quote response assignment can be found on the last page of the summer reading assignment. Please type quote response assignments in MLA format (double space all writing, use Times New Roman font, in size 12). If you cannot type this assignment, please let your teacher know as soon as possible.

Rhetorical Triangle Worksheet 1

SPEAKER: As you read, look for details that help to develop the Speaker, in this case - the central figure of the memoir, or the author. **List 20 key details about the Speaker below**, pulling direct quotes from the memoir that tell us about the author. In each box, include one quote and its page number(s).

[illegible]

Rhetorical Triangle Worksheet 2

AUDIENCE: As you read, think about the intended audience for this memoir. Who exactly does the Speaker hope to reach? Did he/she write primarily to satisfy him or herself? Or is the speaker explaining to a particular group how or why certain decisions were made? Is the memoir for a general audience, possibly of a particular age or generation? Is the target audience primarily to men, women, or both? Is this speaker writing to people who basically agree with him/her, or to convince those who do not? Consider these questions and write your ideas on Audience below. **Include 10 direct quotes that seem to exemplify who the intended audience is and why.** In each box, you should include one quote and its page number(s).

Rhetorical Triangle Worksheet 3

MESSAGE: Every communication has a message. Sometimes we call it the theme, or the main idea. Often we find more than one. As you read, try to **identify a minimum of five possible Messages of this memoir**. List your ideas as complete sentences below (there is room for 8, though 5 is all that is required). If you can include a specific quote or moment to support your ideas, please include it.

Rhetorical Triangle Worksheet 4

USE OF LANGUAGE: As you read, think about how the author uses language. Try to **identify 20 instances of figurative language used** (personification, symbol, metaphor, simile, hyperbole) and think about what each instance adds to the text. Think about particular diction, or word choices, that seem effective or important, too. In each box below, list one example of figurative language or striking diction used, including the page number.

[illegible]

Memoir Quote Response Paragraphs

1. **Choose two important and or interesting quotes from the memoir**, roughly one from the first half, and the other from the second half. Look for critical passages that convey the essence of the text or the author/central character. Your choices can be up to approximately three paragraphs but no more than one page in length.

To help you get started, you may want to use the following questions to select passages and generate ideas:

- Why does the passage impress, intrigue, horrify, or puzzle you?
 - Do you find the author's use of language appealing or powerful? Does the passage jump off the page as great description?
 - Does the passage prompt a strong response from you as you read it? Does it present itself as so well-crafted that you just love the sound of it? Is the language beautiful, descriptive, graphic, or something else?
 - Is the passage particularly meaningful, to you and your feelings and emotions, or to the author/central character?
 - Do you find yourself in agreement/disagreement with the ideas expressed?
 - Does the passage remind you of a situation you have lived as well?
 - Does the passage make you laugh out loud? Melancholy? Something else?
 - Does the author raise intriguing questions or issues?
 - Does the passage challenge or expand your thinking?
 - Does the passage provide particular insight into the development of the author, speaker, or another central figure?
 - Does the passage reflect the specifics of the time and/or place of the narrative?
2. **For each passage, write a well-developed paragraph that discusses the importance of the passage to the memoir and explains why you selected it.** Each response paragraph should be approximately 15 sentences in length, should include specific supporting details and/or quotes, and should be organized around a central idea.

Though this is *not* a full essay, we are expecting you to engage in analytical thinking and an organized writing process. This should include:

- ✓ Prewrite – this is done in your selection of meaningful quotes and in the jotting down of ideas while reading to grow your understanding
- ✓ Write a draft of each response paragraph
- ✓ Revise carefully – remember this is the first writing your teacher will see from you. Use carefully chosen diction and make sure your sentences sound smooth. Check your logic and organization. Of course, proofread your work so you wow us!
- ✓ Type your final copy with the full passage at the top, including page numbers. Your writing should then be double spaced, in Times New Roman, 12 point font.