

CHS AP English Language and Composition



Summer Reading and Writing 2022: Memoir & NB entries

Focus Questions:

- **Narrative** - Why is a person's memoir *worth* sharing with other people? How did these experiences create change in their lives? How do we use our experiences/memories to express a certain purpose in our own writing? What can we learn about writing from this memoir mentor text model?
- **Analysis** - What is the Rhetorical Situation of your author's memoir - Speaker, Audience, Purpose/Message? Why write this memoir now? For whom? What strategies make it persuasive? How does a writer use a variety of Rhetorical Strategies to vividly re-create their story for the reader's benefit and understanding?
- **Critical Thinking** - Why do writers share their stories? What is their purpose in telling their story? Why that particular experience/event as opposed to any other experience? How can reading memoirs help us gain a better understanding of ourselves, our human behavior, our society, and the subjective nature of truth?

** PLEASE JOIN the [AP Lang Summer 2022 Reading and Writing Google Classroom](#) page with this link or with this join code: **tvzg2hq**

Reading Assignment:

1. Choose **one** memoir novel from the list below to read carefully and completely. These memoirs have been selected because they offer some insights into diverse worlds, cultures, and experiences than maybe what you know. Because you are reading about the REAL LIVES of the people writing these books, and this is considered a college-level reading and writing class, they are not censored and may contain strong language and difficult situations.

5 Memoir Book Selections: Select 1!

[*Born a Crime*](#) by Trevor Noah (The Audiobook of this is an awesome option!)

[*The Glass Castle*](#) by Jeannette Walls

[*Educated*](#) by Tara Westover

[*I Know Why the Caged Bird Sings*](#) by Maya Angelou

[*The Other Wes Moore: One Name, Two Fates*](#) by Wes Moore

Do your research before selecting the right memoir for you by reading reviews on Amazon (linked here) or on Goodreads to make a fitting selection for *yourself*, not just what your friends are reading. Most students prefer to purchase their own book so they can annotate and highlight, but you might find a copy of any of these at your local library or check out an audiobook, (especially for *Born a Crime* as it is read by the author!) Most of these books range from 9-12 hours of actual reading time. In total, we estimate that your

Summer Reading and Writing Work should take approximately 12-16 total hours to complete. Contact Mrs. Yegge or Ms. Spak for questions or concerns: layegge@clarkston.k12.mi.us or eespak@clarkston.k12.mi.us, but realize, there may not be an immediate response over the summer. See Reading Bookmark Expectations at the end.

The Summer Reading & Writing Memoir Unit will be approximately 2-3 weeks in length and will include additional discussions and activities and written essays that will be part of your first-semester grade. Failure to sufficiently complete the summer reading and writing work is NOT an acceptable reason to be dropped from the class.

2. **Read and/or listen to the book.** *As you read*, complete this [Reading Bookmark](#) of the **Top 10 Intriguing Passages** that may best represent this author's writing style, or pivotal moments for this author, or just passages that really resonate with you and compel you to stop and ponder more or see your life in a different way. (A copy of this Bookmark is provided for you on the Google Classroom page.)
 - a. Be sure to mark passages from *throughout the book* to show you have read the whole thing and are ready to discuss its full impact on readers.
 - b. You can mark many more passages than just ten with sticky notes while you read, but do jot down a brief note as to why you marked that spot! Then, narrow them down to the Top 10 for the typed bookmark.
 - c. You will type up the Bookmark chart to have a hard copy **and** submit it to your teacher's Google Classroom and to Turnitin by **Friday, Sept. 9, 2022**. You will get info on these during the first week of school.
 - d. Please note: Your reading interpretation and experience is much different from someone else's, so include what resonates with *you*. DO NOT COPY someone else's passages or portions of, or from your sibling's old bookmark/book, or from other book sites on the Internet as these get red-flagged by Turnitin.

Summer Work Writing Assignment:

1. Summer Writing Memoir Prompts - Pick 3. Share your stories and “memoir moments”!

All 3 different entries should be your nonfiction writing of at least one full page long (at least 200 words), with clear paragraph indentations. Hand-written in pen or pencil or typed, 12 size font, double-spaced. Include a Label for the entry, (not just a letter) and the Date written. See Writing Expectations at the end. (These 3 NB entries could be included later for your Writing Cycle 1 when we will need 10 entries!)

- A. From **one of your selected passages** from your bookmarks, **write your own “memoir moment”** *inspired by the content of the passage and/or resembling the author’s writing style* and rhetorical moves. What is a memorable turning point of your life so far? Share that story! What details capture it in the moment, the time period, the setting, the other people involved, what was said, what did you think then, and what do you think now? How did this change you after? What can others learn from your sharing of this experience?
- B. **“Everyone always asks me...”** Finish this sentence starter and lead into a developed multi-paragraph entry about it. Then, include your answer to the contrasting statement that finishes this other line: **“But, what I wish they would ask me about is”**
- C. Check out the [“Learn is a Verb”](#) article and especially the ending. Then, based on what it shares about undertaking a new task, **describe something that you have learned outside of an academic setting!** Describe your full process of learning whatever it is, and explain when, how, and **why it has shaped you.**
- D. Because we will write a lot and often, and we will explore a variety of different types of nonfiction texts this coming year, we want you to *build your awareness of the world around you and your knowledge of current events and issues.* **Please listen to a “new-to-you” recommended [Podcast](#).** Start with the label of the podcast and the date. Then, take notes on what you notice from it. Then, with those notes and musings, share why you chose this one to listen to and add your own commentary about the issue(s) presented. How and why did they resonate with you? Why should others also listen/watch?
- E. Check out the [New York Times 13th Annual Summer Reading and Writing Contest](#)
Follow their directions, read the news, **respond to something in the news, and draft your own NB entry.** You may or may not send in your essay to the contest for this, but wouldn’t it be cool if you did! (One of our former CHS AP Lang. students entered and was recognized as a top finalist! You could be the next!)

AP English Language & Composition
Summer Reading MEMOIR Bookmark 2022

Name _____

Book Title _____

Total # of Pages _____

<p>Top 10 Most Intriguing Passages from <i>throughout</i> the book (a passage is NOT a single quoted line. A passage needs to be many paragraphs and usually 1-2 pages in length) Look for theme/message development OR character development OR author's writing style not just personal connections.</p>	<p>Passage From sentence _____ to _____ Copy down about the first 8 words and last 8 words of the passage with ... (ellipsis) in between and always use quotation marks.</p>	<p>Why? Give an explanation (100-200 words) as to why you felt drawn to this passage. Consider these questions: How does it connect to a larger message or this person's development in this memoir as a whole? How does this show the writer's style best? How does it resonate with you? Why is this moment pivotal to the author? Conclude with WHY this passage is one of your Top 10 of the whole book. (May expand these rows as necessary - do not go smaller than size 12 font, please)</p>
<p>Student Example from <i>The Glass Castle</i> Pages 4-5, opening of the book. (Do NOT copy this example row into your final bookmark for Turnitin!)</p>	<p>"I looked around the room... Mom said. 'That's simple enough.'"</p>	<p>This passage is Walls's masterful hook. The reader enters her story with the knowledge that this is her life story, so the reader immediately is forced to ponder the context of a mother and daughter separated by the street, what events took place, what is different between their personalities, and why the mother, of all people, feels content. There is a clear tension established from their past, making the readers yearn for Walls's elaboration. Most importantly in this passage, she succinctly establishes her purpose for writing this book. Her mother says to just tell the truth, meaning that sharing this story is a reminder by Walls that there is a reason for ending up where you are and becoming who you have become, because you cannot change what has made you stronger or weaker. (small font to fit this page)</p>
<p>Pages ____ to ____</p>		
<p>Pages ____ to ____</p>		
<p>Pages ____ to ____</p>		
<p>Pages ____ to ____</p>		
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<p>Pages ____ to ____</p>		
<p>Pages ____ to ____</p>		

AP Lang Summer Work Expectations

Summer Reading Memoir Bookmark Expectations 30 points

- All 10 Selected passages are rich with meaning or thematic development or show the author's writing style, or character development.
- Passages are marked with page #s and spread out fairly well throughout the whole memoir.
- All explanations share original, thoughtful interpretation of why the passage was selected and how passage is significant to the reader and/or memoir as a whole.
- Bookmark is well –written. Properly edited for basic grammar, capitalization, spelling, punctuation, sentence structure, etc. throughout.
- **Typed** using the template given, but **will** be more than one page.
- Printed as a hard copy for class discussions.
- Submitted to Turnitin AND teacher's Google Classroom by due date.

Summer Writing - 3 Notebook Entries Expectations 30 points

- Well-chosen prompt choices for all entries help show the student's mind and personal writing style. Label at the top in words which prompt was chosen. Date.
- All entries show voice, creativity, thought and conscientious effort.
- All entries are complete and share a purpose; clear beginning, middle, end; depth of meaning and/or insight into a chosen idea
- All entries show development and organization through *paragraph breaks* and full page entries (200+ words at least).
- Effective evidence and details included to support the purpose.
- Entries address the prompts given, show personal writing style and developed thoughts in attempts for select word choice, syntax variety, rhetorical strategies and/or literary devices
- All entries show attention to proper grammar with capitalization, punctuation, spelling and sentence structure.
- All entries are labeled, dated, and *handwritten* legibly in pencil or pen or typed, double-spaced.
- Basic proper grammar editing - proper capitalizations, punctuation, end punctuation, indentation, etc.
- Turned in by due date on *your* teacher's Google Classroom as one doc with separate pages for each entry or with photos of each handwritten NB entry.