

## AP Language and Composition Summer Reading Assignment\_2018-19

Mrs. Gamache

Due the first day of class

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**About AP:** Thanks for your interest in taking AP Lang! Advanced Placement Language and Composition is designed to take the place of a college level reading and composition (writing) class. We will read challenging texts almost every day. We will write on a regular basis about what others have written, and you will write your own pieces using rhetorical strategies. Students choosing AP English Language and Composition should be interested in studying and writing various kinds of analytic or persuasive essays. You will gain considerable practice in reading a wide variety of nonfiction texts from newspaper editorials to critical essays and political treatises in order to find out what others are thinking, saying and doing in the world. In addition to nonfiction, we will read many works of fiction.

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**Opportunities to Earn College Credit:** In May 2019, you may take the AP Language and Composition exam, created by the College Board. Your score on this exam may enable you to get college credit for the class. There is a fee to take the test. You do not have to take the AP Lang. and Comp. class in order to take the test.

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**Completion of Summer Assignments:** Completion of the assignment is a prerequisite for the class, but failure to complete the summer work will not prevent your enrollment. If you fail to do the assignment, you will remain in the class, but you and I will have a discussion about your ability to succeed in AP Language and Composition. Also, you may begin the term with failing grades and be behind. Be prepared for a test (or other assessments of the reading) and class activities on the materials the first weeks of school.

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### Reading Assignment

Book: [Born a Crime: Stories from a South African Childhood](#) by Trevor Noah

As you're reading, annotate within the book if it's yours; otherwise, use post it notes to write and annotate. Books are meant to be annotated! You will need to purchase or borrow this book. It is not available in the SHS library.

Assignment: "Dialectic" Quote Journal.

#### Part 1:

You will complete a series of journal entries for the book that demonstrates engagement with the text, attempts to understand the various arguments presented, and provides a sampling of your best critical thinking.

- Create a heading with your name, the book title, and book author. Use proper MLA format.
- Select 9-12 meaningful passages that adequately draw from the beginning, middle, and end of each text.
- Write out the entire passage to which you will refer and include the page number from which it came.
- Paraphrase or summarize the passage. It will be helpful to provide the context in which it came. In other words, what is happening before and after this passage appears in the text?
- Analyze and react to the passage in full sentences—not notes. This should NOT just be a personal reaction or summary; rather, you should attempt to analyze the methods that the writer uses to make his or her argument. This is where you will show your engagement and reflection. Your analysis should be longer than the selected quotation or passage.

**Part 2:**

Final Page of Dialectic Quote Journal:

- In three to four carefully constructed sentences, indicate the theme(s), the author’s purpose in writing the book, or the author’s purpose in writing the book the particular way he does. This should not be “just to tell his story.” Think about what message he might want to send in telling the story/stories. Do not summarize. I’ve already read the book and know the plot.
- In three or more carefully constructed sentences, write out your personal reactions to the book.

**Example set-up of Part 1:**

Student Name: Audrey Gamache Book Name: Catcher in the Rye Author: J.D. Salinger

Quotation/Passage from the text w/ page numbers	Paraphrase or Summary if you’re including a passage.	Analyze and React
<p>“My brother Allie had this left-handed fielders mitt. He was left -handed . . . he was two years younger than I was, but he was about fifty times more intelligent. He was terrifically intelligent. . . . God he was a nice kid though. He used to laugh so hard at something he thought of at the dinner table that he just about fell off his chair (38).”</p>		<p>Allie represents a time when life was good and Holden was happy. He loved Allie--everything about him, from his poetry covered baseball mitt, to how smart and funny he was (notice he repeats “intelligent” twice, emphasizing it).</p> <p>Allie on another level represents the childhood innocence that Holden longs for, but can't have. Once innocence is lost, you can't get it back, though Holden really isn't ready to take on grown up relationships and responsibilities. Still, Holden tries to act old and claims he's mature for his age. Holden's feelings about Allie show his sensitivity and are an important part of his character. His feelings also demonstrate the argument that innocence is an ideal: we idealize the times when we laughed “so hard at something... that [we] just about fell of [our chairs].” At the same time as we idealize them, in adolescence, we are trying hard to outgrow these behaviors as we see Holden trying so hard to do. Further, in representing Holden’s voice, Salinger repeats several phrases -“left-handed” and “intelligent”- to emphasize not only Holden’s stream of consciousness but also Allie’s qualities that he admired.</p>