

## Summer Reading Suggestions: AP Language and Composition

2018-2019

AP Language and Composition students are required to read **TWO** books this summer. If you have any questions about locating a book, please feel free to contact Toni Kershasky at Maury High School at (757) 628-3378 or through e-mail at [tkershasky@nps.k12.va.us](mailto:tkershasky@nps.k12.va.us). I HAVE ALSO INCLUDED THE REMIND NUMBER AND CODE AS WELL AS THE EDMODO ACCOUNT FOR NEXT YEAR.

**ALL students will read:**

**1. The Things They Carried** by Tim O'Brien

The students will be required to complete a graphic organizer and a timed-essay on the autobiographical novel at the end of September. The students should, but are not required to, take notes relating to arguments O'Brien is making about war.

*I will attach the **Major Works Data Sheet** to Edmodo. It will need to be filled out and handed in to me before the timed-writing at the end of September. It could be typed or hand-written. You should fill it out as you read. DO NOT PLAGIARIZE – WE WILL KNOW!!!*

**2. All will read ONE of the following books** outside of class and expect to have a writing or project assessment at the end of October. Keeping notes or recording ideas in a literary journal will help students to make connections with the text and to remember some of the details.

American Sniper by Chris Kyle

Chris Kyle, a Navy SEAL, recounts his life and military experiences, discusses his record for the most career sniper kills in United States military history and the bounty placed on his head by Iraqi insurgents, provides an eyewitness account of war in Iraq, shares the strains of war on his marriage and family, and honors his fellow soldiers.

Galileo's Daughter by Dava Sobel

This book dramatically recolors the personality and accomplishment of a mythic figure whose 17th-century clash with Catholic doctrine continues to define the schism between science and religion. Moving between Galileo's grand public life and Maria Celeste's sequestered world, Sobel illuminates the Florence of the Medicis and the papal court in Rome during the pivotal era when humanity's perception of its place in the cosmos was about to be overturned. In that same time, while the bubonic plague wreaked its terrible devastation and the Thirty Years' War tipped fortunes across Europe, one man sought to reconcile the Heaven he revered as a good Catholic with the heavens he revealed through a telescope.

No Time to Lose by Peter Piot

In the 1970s, as a young man, Piot was sent to Central Africa as part of a team tasked with identifying a grisly new virus. Crossing into the quarantine zone on the most dangerous missions, he studied local customs to determine how this disease—the Ebola virus—was spreading. Later, Piot found himself in the field again when another mysterious epidemic broke out: AIDS. He traveled throughout Africa, leading the first international AIDS initiatives there. Then, as founder and director of UNAIDS, he negotiated policies with leaders from Fidel Castro to Thabo Mbeki and helped turn the tide of the epidemic.

Plastic by Susan Freinkel

Plastic built the modern world. Where would we be without bike helmets, baggies, toothbrushes, and pacemakers? But a century into our love affair with plastic, we're starting to realize it's not such a healthy relationship. Plastics draw on dwindling fossil fuels, leach harmful chemicals, litter landscapes, and destroy marine life. As journalist Susan Freinkel points out in this engaging and eye-opening book, we're nearing a crisis point. We've produced as much plastic in the past decade as we did in the entire twentieth century. We are drowning in the stuff, and we need to start making some hard choices.

The Devil in the White City by Erik Larson

ISBN: 9780609608449

Larson tells the stories of two men: Daniel H. Burnham, the architect responsible for the fair's construction, and H.H. Holmes, a serial killer masquerading as a charming doctor.

Guns, Germs, and Steel by Jared Diamond

Life isn't fair--here's why: Since 1500, Europeans have, for better & worse, called the tune that the world has danced to. In *Guns, Germs & Steel*, Jared Diamond explains the reasons why things worked out that way. Written without bias, *Guns, Germs & Steel* is good global history.

Killing Lincoln by Bill O'Reilly; Martin Dugard

Recounts one of the most dramatic stories in American history—how one gunshot changed the country forever. Featuring some of history's most remarkable figures, vivid detail, and page-turning action, Killing Lincoln is history that reads like a thriller.

Eight Men Out by Eliot Asinof; Stephen Jay Gould (Introduction by)

The headlines proclaimed the 1919 fix of the World Series and attempted cover-up as "the most gigantic sporting swindle in the history of America!" Eliot Asinof has reconstructed the entire scene-by-scene story of the fantastic scandal in which eight Chicago White Sox players arranged with the nation's leading gamblers to throw the Series in Cincinnati.

King of the World by David Remnick

On the night in 1964 that Muhammad Ali (then known as Cassius Clay) stepped into the ring with Sonny Liston, he was widely regarded as an irritating freak who danced and talked excessively. Six rounds later Ali was not only the new world heavyweight boxing champion: He was "a new kind of black man" who would shortly transform America's racial politics, its popular culture, and its notions of heroism.

Columbine by Dave Cullen

Ten years in the making and a masterpiece of reportage, "Columbine" is an award-winning journalist's definitive account of one of the most shocking massacres in American history. It is driven by two questions: what drove these killers, and what did they do to this town?

The Lynching of Emmett Till by Christopher Metress

At 2:00 A.M. on August 28, 1955, fourteen-year-old Emmett Till, visiting from Chicago, was abducted from his great uncle's cabin in Money, Mississippi, and never seen alive again. When his battered and bloated corpse floated to the surface of the Tallahatchie River three days later and two local white men were arrested for his murder, young Till's death was primed to become the spark that set off the civil rights movement. With a collection of more than one hundred documents spanning almost half a century, Christopher Metress retells Till's story in a unique and daring way.

Midnight in the Garden of Good and Evil by John Berendt

Shots rang out in Savannah's grandest mansion in the misty, early morning hours of May 2, 1981. Was it murder or self-defense? For nearly a decade, the shooting and its aftermath reverberated throughout this hauntingly beautiful city of moss-hung oaks and shaded squares. John Berendt's sharply observed, suspenseful, witty narrative reads like a thoroughly engrossing novel, and yet it is a work of nonfiction. Berendt skillfully interweaves a hugely entertaining first-person account of life in this isolated remnant of the Old South with the unpredictable twists and turns of a landmark murder case.

Portrait of a Killer by Patricia Cornwell

In Portrait of a Killer: Jack the Ripper, Case Closed, Cornwell combines the rigorous discipline of twenty-first century police investigation with forensic techniques undreamed of during the late Victorian era to solve one of the most infamous and difficult serial murder cases in history. Drawing on unparalleled access to original Ripper evidence, documents, and records, as well as archival, academic, and law-enforcement resources, FBI profilers, and top forensic scientists, Cornwell reveals that Jack the Ripper was none other than a respected painter of his day, an artist now collected by some of the world's finest museums: Walter Richard Sickert.

**BEFORE SUMMER STARTS:**

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