

## 2019 AP Language and Composition Summer Reading

Below you will find the summer reading requirements. Please email me with questions or concerns any time, and enjoy the pleasures of reading the book you choose and the one required reading.

Summer reading is for your enjoyment as well as growth as a thinker, reader, and writer. The following is your summer reading assignment:

- I. **Everyone must choose either *7 Men and the Secret of Their Greatness* or *7 Women and the Secret of Their Greatness*, both by Eric Metaxas.**
  - a. **Be sure to read the Introduction and annotate, noting Metaxas's purpose.**
  - b. **For each chapter:**
    - i. **Write an original title.**
    - ii. **Choose a powerful quote: Pick an appealing line from the text or a quote and cite the page number, then explain:**
      - **why you chose it above all other text in that chapter**
      - **how the text illustrates a particular trait/characteristic of the person or a major turning point in the life of the person.**
- II. **Choice Book - Choose a book from the attached list or please feel free to make your own selection. There are certain stipulations, however, if you decide to read a book that is not on the list, and *you must submit your book choice to me for approval before you read.* Email or text me (205-835-9034) the title of your book and I'll respond quickly with yes or no so that you can get started. The following are the criteria for any book NOT on the list:**
  1. **11th grade reading level or above**
  2. **A book you haven't read before, either independently or required reading at school**
  3. **Worthy of being taught in an AP English class**
  4. **School appropriate, approved by me, and acceptable to your parents**

**Your task is to read this book and contemplate why it should be included in required reading for high school students. Nothing required here unless you want to take some notes about the value of the book and its message or themes.**

The work on the Metaxas book will be graded the first week of school, and you will write an argument paper on the choice book within the first two weeks.

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Choose a book to read from the following lists or choose your own book and get my approval for reading. If you'd like to read a sample to help you in making a decision, I suggest using Goodreads, as most of the books on that site have a preview option.

### Nonfiction

*The Killer Angels* – Michael Shaara  
*Rocket Men* – Robert Kurston  
*Young Men and Fire* – Norman Maclean  
*Man's Search for Meaning* – Victor Frankl  
*Seabiscuit* – Laura Hillenbrand  
*Profiles in Courage for Our Time* – Caroline Kennedy  
*A Deadly Wandering* – Matt Richtel  
*Deep Survival: Who Lives, Who Dies, and Why* – Laurence Gonzalez  
*Where Men Win Glory* – Jon Krakauer  
*A Long Way Home: A Memoir* – Saroo Brierly (the basis for the movie *Lion*)  
*Gifted Hands* – Ben Carson  
*The Hiding Place* – Corrie Ten Boom  
*Band of Brothers* – Stephen Ambrose  
*With the Old Breed: At Peleliu and Okinawa* – E. B. Sledge  
*Maus I: A Survivor's Tale: My Father Bleeds History* – Art Spiegelman (has been classified as both fiction and nonfiction)  
*Mister God, This Is Anna* – Fynn  
*The Tipping Point: How Little Things Can Make a Big Difference* – Malcolm Gladwell  
*102 Minutes: The Untold Stories of the Fight to Survive Inside the Twin Towers* – Jim Dwyer

### Fiction

*The Secret Life of Bees* – Sue Monk Kidd  
*The Nightingale* – Kristin Hannah  
*Code Name Verity* – Elizabeth E. Wein  
*Sarah's Key* – Tatiana de Rosnay  
*If I Stay* – Gayle Forman  
*Redeeming Love* – Francine Rivers  
*Till We Have Faces* – C. S. Lewis