

Dear AP Language and Composition Students,

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 read 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 that serves as evidence for your title.**
- 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 paragraph on the choice book within the first two weeks after school starts.

2020 Summer Reading AP Language and Composition

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
Unbroken – 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 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