

AP Language and Composition
2024 Summer Reading
Lawton Chiles High School

Course Description:

Welcome to AP Language and Composition, a course designed to be the equivalent in rigor to a college course in rhetoric, literature studies, and composition. Special attention will be devoted to preparing students for the AP Language and Composition examination. We will be working with this assignment from the first day of class, so have the novel read and annotated by the *first day of class*.

Your summer assignment:

(1) Select and read ***a memoir of your choice***. A list of suggestions has been provided here. You can find these selections at Books A Million, Barnes and Noble, Amazon, and your local library. You will be required to annotate your selection, so if you use a library book, be sure that it is accessible on the first day of class.

Options include:

Book Title	Author	“What is this about?”
<i>The Glass Castle</i>	Walls	Walls’ account of growing up homeless and transient
<i>A Rumor of War ++</i>	Caputo	A Vietnam veteran recalls his tour of duty there
<i>The Color of Water ++</i>	McBride	A black writer’s tribute to his white mother
<i>My Losing Season</i>	Conroy	Playing basketball for the Citadel reveals fear of failure and humiliation
<i>The Courage to Be Free</i>	DeSantis	Governor recounts his upbringing as well as the policies that have guided his administration
<i>When I Was Puerto Rican</i>	Santiago	The earliest years of Santiago’s journey from the barrio to Brooklyn; an American dream story
<i>Born a Crime ++</i>	Noah	The comedian’s account of growing up as biracial child in apartheid South Africa
<i>Angela’s Ashes ++</i>	McCourt	A writer recalls his poverty-stricken Irish childhood
<i>Faith of My Fathers</i>	McCain	Senator and war hero recounts achievements of his military ancestors and his experiences as a POW
<i>Reading Lolita in Tehran</i>	Nafisi	Lit professor Nafisi returns to her native Iran and teaches Western books to her female students
<i>The Opposite of Fate</i>	Amy Tan	Author reflects on the experiences leading to her writing life
<i>On Writing</i>	Stephen King	Famed author discusses writing and his advice for future writers
<i>My Beloved World</i>	Sotomayor	The Supreme Court justice recounts her journey from a Bronx housing project to the federal bench

++ Next to a title indicates more mature language and themes.

(2) You need to show an active reading strategy throughout the entire book and should have **no fewer than 40 annotations** (on post-its, margin notes, etc.). Your annotations should focus on:

- **word choice (diction)**
- **tone (What is the author’s tone towards the subject? How do you know? Does the tone shift?)**
- **sentence structure**
- **audience**
- **context**

- **purpose**
- **appeals (Does the writer appeal to a reader's sense of emotion? Which emotions? Is it effective? Does the writer appeal to a reader's sense of logic? How does a writer use their credibility to appeal to the reader?)**
- **anything else that interests you as you read (Is there a particularly effective description? A beautiful or powerful image?)**

Bring your copy of the novel WITH ANNOTATIONS on the first day of class.

(3) During the first week of school, be prepared to complete a close reading assessment and rhetorical analysis assignment that shows your understanding of your selected text.

During the school year, all AP Lang and Comp classes will be reading the following novels. It is suggested that you be on the lookout now for inexpensive or used (but not previously annotated) copies of these works: *The Scarlet Letter* by Hawthorne and *The Great Gatsby* by Fitzgerald. Please note: We will be using hard copies (not electronic copies) of the summer reading novel and the two novels we read throughout the 24-25 school year.

AP Language and Composition is considered a college-level course; consequently, the language and plot of the readings (and our expectations) reflect this level of maturity.