

**AP Language and Composition**  
**2021 Required 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:**

Read *The Color of Water* by James McBride (available at local bookstores, libraries, and online retailers). Read the book with an eye for the author's style of writing and how it influences the meaning of the novel.

You need to show an active reading strategy throughout the entire book and should have **no less than 40 annotations** (on post-its, margin notes, etc.). Your annotations should focus on **word choice (diction), tone, sentence structure, audience, context, speaker, purpose, appeals, and other things interesting to you.**

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

During the first week of school, be prepared to complete a close reading assessment and rhetorical analysis assignment that shows your understanding of *The Color of Water*.

**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, *The Great Gatsby* by Fitzgerald, and *Their Eyes Were Watching God* by Hurston. **Please note:** We will be using hard copies (not electronic copies) of the summer reading novel and the three novels we read throughout the 21-22 school year.

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