

**AP English Language and Composition:**

Students should read at least 5 books\* during summer vacation from the lists that follow and should respond to each in writing in a journal (approximately 10”x 10” in size, no larger). For each of the five books, students should note:

- ✓ basic plot, main characters and brief description of each;
- ✓ important symbols and explanations; and
- ✓ at least two important themes from each book with appropriate commentary on each.

In addition, following the aforementioned instructions, students should:

- ✓ choose two passages from each book that were particularly memorable and copy each into the journal.

Following each passage, students should:

- ✓ explain, in a paragraph or two, their reasons for selecting these passages.

Journals, which are due on the first day of class, will be graded.

- Required:**
1. *Narrative of the Life of Frederick Douglass, an American Slave* (Douglas)
  2. *Persepolis, Volume 1* (Satrapi)
  3. *The Language Police* (Ravitch)
  4. *In Cold Blood* (Capote)
  5. Choose one from list:

A History of Everything	Wilbur
A Room with a View	Forster
Alistair Cooke’s America	Cooke
An American Tragedy	Dreiser
Black Water	Oates
Bless Me, Ultima	Anaya
Bury My Heart at Wounded Knee	Dee Brown
Cat’s Cradle	Vonnegut
Cloudsplitter	Banks
Cry the Beloved Country	Paton
Ellen Foster	Gibbons
East of Eden	Steinbeck
The Elegance of the Hedgehog	Barbery
If Morning Ever Comes	Tyler
Inventing English	Lerer
Life on the Mississippi	Twain
Mother Night	Vonnegut
Mrs. Dalloway	Woolf
Native Son	Wright
On the Road	Kerouac
One Hundred Years of Solitude	GarciaMarquez
What Is the What	Eggers
Sights Unseen	Gibbons
Song of Solomon	Morrison
Strides Towards Freedom	Martin Luther King, Jr.
The Age of Innocence	Wharton
The Electric Kool-Aid Acid Test	Wolfe
The Kitchen God’s Wife	Tan
The Natural	Malamud
The Souls of Black Folk	DuBois
The Things They Carried	O’Brien

This Was Harlem: A Cultural Portrait  
Travels with Charley  
Dandelion Wine  
Women Who Run with Wolves  
You Can't Go Home Again

Anderson  
Steinbeck  
Bradbury  
Estes  
Wolfe