

AP Lang Summer Assignment

For your summer reading, you will **choose one** of the following:

- *The World Without Us* by Alan Weisman (Environmental Issues)
- *Lies My Teacher Told Me: Everything Your American History Textbook Got Wrong* by James W. Loewen (History)
- *The Immortal Life of Henrietta Lacks* by Rebecca Skloot (Medical Science)
- *In the Time of Butterflies* by Julia Alvarez (Historical Nonfiction)
- *The Devil in a White City* by Erick Larson (True Crime)
- *Eight Men Out* by Eliot Asinof

You may find copies at Half Price Books, Barnes and Noble, or Amazon. There are many options, but you will need to find a copy of the book as soon as possible.

A typed version of the Summer Writing Assignment is due on the first day of class either printed, emailed, or saved to OneDrive. Academic dishonesty will not be tolerated; do not use any source other than the book and your own thinking. Once you return for the school year, the class will discuss issues presented in the books, so you should have the book with you on the first day of class. We will relate the content of this book to Unit One instruction. Summer reading is not just one assignment; it drives what we do to start the class and it is important in working towards your success in the course.

Email Ms. Simpson (jasmine.simpson@dmschools.org) if you have any questions or concerns throughout the summer.

Writing Assignment

Respond to **all** five prompts below. Your responses must contain specific references to details in the book. I must be able to tell that you have read and absorbed the material discussed in through your writing. Each written response should be answered in at least two, well-developed paragraphs (including text evidence), again focusing on quality thinking and writing.

1. What was the context and situation of time that motivated the author to write this book in the first place? Who was their intended audience? What was their purpose in writing this book? Based on the arguments that are presented in the book, how would this topic be presented in the past, and predict how it would be presented in the future.

2. You will soon learn that with argument, an author's style of writing is not accidental. It is a carefully constructed technique drawing upon a multitude of tools. Some of these tools include: diction, syntax, imagery and figurative language. Find examples from the book of these and explain how they contribute to the effectiveness of the argument. Be sure to use text evidence and explain your thinking.

3. Within the first 50 pages, what were your perceptions of the topic? Were your perceptions of the topic discussed changed or reinforced by this book? How did the author's stylistic choice help to either change or reinforce your thinking?

4. What moral principles are involved in this subject? What controversies exist and why? What arguments could emerge from a study of this topic and how might they be supported by the text? In this answer, discuss the opposing sides of the argument and explain your thinking with text evidence.

5. Explain how this topic may be presented from the perspective of one of the following: Economist, Anthropologist, Sociologist, Biologist, Philosopher, or Historian. For this prompt, you may need to do a little outside research to help you explain your thinking. Explain what perceptions this person might have about the topic and arguments presented in the book based on their discipline and why? (*This answer should be in the 3rd person, you should not be assuming the role of the person, but rather explaining how they would view the topic*)