

Torah Academy of Bergen County
English Department
Eleventh Grade Summer 2019 Reading Assignment: Non-Fiction

Dear Juniors,

Take your pick:



Once you have found your spot, choose your book from the list below. This year, the English Department has decided to give you, the students of the incoming eleventh grade class, a list of non-fiction books to choose from for your summer reading.

Please select one book and read it carefully because when you return to school, you will be writing a PERSONAL response on it. This type of response asks you to examine, explain and defend your personal reaction to a reading. In it, you might explore why you like or dislike the reading and what about the text is easily identifiable and what is not, explain whether you agree or disagree with the author's point of view and how much it has in common with your worldview, identify the reading's purpose, and critique the text. There is no right or wrong answer to a reader response. Nonetheless, it is important that you demonstrate an understanding of the reading and clearly explain and support your reactions when you write about your book in September.

Please note:

- **You must bring the book of your choice to class on the first day of school.**
- **We are not interested in your reading of secondary sources on the books; we are interested only in your ideas and reactions regarding the book you have chosen.**

Pick a good spot and enjoy the read!

The Point of Vanishing: A Memoir of Two Years in Solitude, by Howard Axelrod

When Breath Becomes Air, by Paul Kalanithi

Steve Jobs, by Walter Isaacson

The Google Story, by David J. Vise

Blink: The Tipping Point, by Malcolm Gladwell

Freakonomics, by Steven J. Dubner and Steven D. Levitt

Buyology: Truth and Lies About Why We Buy, by Martin Lindstrom

The Big Short, by Michael Lewis

The Bullies of Wall Street, by Sheila Bair

The Immortal Life of Henrietta Lacks, by Rebecca Skloot

Why We Make Mistakes, by Joseph T. Hallinan

The Glass Castle, by Jeannette Walls

Devil and the White City, by Erik Larson

In Cold Blood, by Truman Capote

Grit: The Power of Passion and Perseverance, by Angela Duckworth

The Road to Character, by David Brooks

Sincerely,



Dr. Carol Master
Chair, English Department



Arthur J. Poleyeff
Principal