

Austin High School AP Language and Composition (AP English 11) Summer Reading

Each student in AP Language and Composition will choose **one** book to read from **each** category of the assigned list. (Non-AP students will need to check Decatur City School's website for assignment instructions.) Students will give a book talk from a non-fiction work **AND** write an in-class essay on a fiction novel from the list below.

Note to parents: Some of the titles on this list contain mature content. Parental consent is advised.

<p>Non-Fiction Selections</p> <p>Assignment: Book Talk</p> <p>Due: By Monday, August 19</p>	<p><i>A Long Way Gone: Memoirs of a Boy Soldier</i>-- Ishmael Beah</p> <p><i>Everything Bad is Good for You: How Today's Popular Culture is Actually Making Us Smarter</i>-- Steven Johnson</p> <p><i>The Hiding Place</i>-- Corrie Ten Boom</p> <p><i>I am a SEAL Team Six Warrior</i>-- Howard Watson</p> <p><i>The Most They Ever Had</i>-- Rick Bragg</p> <p><i>On Writing</i>-- Stephen King</p> <p><i>Speed Reading</i>-- Calvin Horgan</p> <p>*I suggest you take notes as you read to aid you in the creation and rehearsal of your Book Talk presentation.*</p>
<p>Fiction Selections</p> <p>Assignment: In-Class Essay</p> <p>Due: By Tuesday, August 13</p>	<p><i>An Ember in the Ashes</i>--Sabaa Tahir Genre: YA Survival Stories & Dystopian</p> <p><i>Batman: The Court of Owls</i> AND <i>Batman: The City of Owls</i>-- Scott Snyder Genre: Science Fiction, Fantasy, & Graphic Novel</p> <p><i>Carve the Mark</i>--Veronica Roth Genre: YA Science Fiction & Dystopian</p> <p><i>I'm Not Your Perfect Mexican Daughter</i>-- Erika Sanchez Genre: YA Realistic Fiction</p> <p><i>The Joy Luck Club</i>--Amy Tan Genre: Asian American Literature & Fiction</p> <p><i>The Raven Boys</i>--Maggie Stiefvater Genre: YA Paranormal & Urban Fantasy</p> <p><i>Their Eyes Were Watching God</i>--Zora Neale Hurston Genre: African American Literary Criticism</p> <p>*You should take notes as you read to prepare for the in-class essay you will write when we return to school. Your notes will serve as a place for you to track the development of ideas, settings, and characters throughout the novel. In the timed essay you write, I will be looking for your understanding of the novel as a whole along with your analysis of complex relationships in the text. The essay will also be used as a diagnostic to document your skills at the beginning of the year.*</p>

Book Talk Guidelines

Book Talk presentations will begin no later than Monday, August 19, 2019. Presentations must include a visual element created in Google Slides. Students should check with their teacher to determine if the assignment should also be submitted online to Google Classroom or Canvas.

Your book talk should flow nicely like a commercial. **It should not be a giant list answering the questions below nor should you simply read your responses off of the slides.** Look up sample Book Talks online before creating your own. Link to help: <https://youtu.be/kln1mTngLq4>

Opening

Hook your audience! You may use a combination of the techniques below. Make sure to also give the title and author of the book.

- Read a quote from the book
- Ask a question of your audience
- Introduce the main character
- Vividly set the scene

Summary

In a paragraph or two, summarize the content of the book.

Impression

Share your opinion!

- How did you feel about the book?
- What did you think of the author?
- Would you recommend it to others?
- What would you rate it?

Closing

Entice your audience! You may use a combination of the techniques below.

- Ask a rhetorical question
- Read a quote from the book
- Use a cliffhanger

Book Talk Rubric

	Above Target	Target	Below Target
Opening/Closing	Grabs and holds listeners' attention in order to make listeners interested in reading the novel.	Makes listeners mildly interested in the novel.	Does not spark interest in the novel; speaker isn't really sure why others should read it.
Plot information	Includes all of the important plot events (without giving away the ending) and characters.	Includes some of the important plot events (without giving away the ending) and characters.	Includes a few of the important plot events and characters and/or gives away the ending.
Presentation	Speaker is poised and makes eye contact with audience. Delivery is the appropriate speed, and voice is audible.	Student is mostly prepared and makes eye contact most of the time. Delivery speed and voice are ok.	Speaker is unprepared or unrehearsed. Delivery is too fast/slow and/or it is difficult to hear.
Creativity/Use of Google Slides	Slideshow looks appealing and colorful. No glaring grammar errors.	Slideshow is sufficient with only a few minor grammar errors.	Slideshow is filled with major grammar errors or was hard for the audience to follow.