

12th GRADE ENGLISH SUMMER ASSIGNMENT
AS-Level English Language & A-Level English Literature
ASU Preparatory Academy, Phoenix, AZ



INSTRUCTOR

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You are receiving this Required Summer Assignment because you are registered for AS-Level English Language or A-Level English Literature for the 2018-2019 school year. In preparation for our work in the upcoming year, this summer you will be required to critically **read and respond to a published memoir/autobiography** of your choice and **write a short personal essay about you and your experiences with writing up to now**. Please review the following assignments and contact Ms. Yap ASAP if you have any questions.

PART A: REQUIRED READING ASSIGNMENT

Step 1: Select a published, novel-length memoir or autobiography to read this summer. Read and make thoughtful notes on your chosen book BEFORE the first day of class.

You can select the memoir of a famous celebrity, an athlete, a political figure, a writer, an actor... the options are practically endless! Be sure that the book is of novel-length and that it is written by the person himself or herself. If you need some ideas, you can find a brief list of popular memoirs and autobiographies on the back of this page to help you. If you aren't sure about your book choice, email Ms. Yap ASAP. Remember to make notes as you read; your annotations can be on separate paper, sticky notes, or electronic.

Questions to consider in your annotations:

- What makes this person's memoir/autobiography interesting and/or unique from others?
- What does the writer do to make his or her story memorable? What writing techniques stand out to you?

Step 2: Create a one-page representation of the entire book using words and pictures. Bring this with you to share on the first day of class--Monday, July 30, 2018.

Your one-pager should fill one entire 8.5"x11" page, use color and space thoughtfully (no blank white space!), and include the following information:

- title, author, year of publication
- 4-5 sentence summary of content
- 1 sentence describing the author's purpose
- 2 important/memorable quotations (with explanations of why they are important)
- pictures/drawings that visually symbolize the content of the text

PART B: REQUIRED WRITING ASSIGNMENT

I want to get to know you and your thoughts about writing a little better. **In a 300-500 word (1-2 pages) short personal essay, tell me about your experiences with writing in your life up to now.** You can use the following questions to get you started. Type your essay using MLA format.

General Topics/Questions	Writing in School	Writing for Yourself
Do you think of yourself as a writer? Why or why not? How much did you see writing and reading around you growing up? What did you see? What memories does you have of places or people related to writing?	What do you remember about writing in school? What feelings or memories do you have? What is something you've written that you were proud of? What is something you've written that mattered to you?	Did you ever write for fun? What kinds of writing did you do? Did you keep a diary? Blog? Lists? Letters? Cards? Poetry? Songs? Plays?

Submit your essay electronically to Ms. Yap by Monday, July 30, 2018 at 11:59 PM.

I highly recommend that you obtain your copy of your chosen memoir/autobiography through a used bookstore or your local public library! The Phoenix Public Library system has multiple locations and a wide variety of books. Go to <https://www.phoenixpubliclibrary.org/Locations> to find the location nearest you. You can also find many texts available for free online. Please check Ms. Yap's website for links and resources.

A Brief List of Popular and/or Well-Known Memoirs and Autobiographies

Abagnale, Frank W.	Catch Me If You Can: The True Story of a Real Fake
Alvarez, Julia	Once Upon a Quinceañera: Coming of Age in the USA
Angelou, Maya	I Know Why the Caged Bird Sings
Bauby, Jean-Dominique	The Diving Bell and the Butterfly
Birbiglia, Mike	Sleepwalk with Me and Other Painfully True Stories
Bourdain, Anthony	Kitchen Confidential: Adventures in the Culinary Underbelly
Bryson, Bill	A Walk in the Woods: Rediscovering America on the Appalachian Trail
Burroughs, Augusten	Running with Scissors
Buzzell, Colby	My War: Killing Time in Iraq
Dahl, Roald	Boy: Tales of Childhood
Day, Felicia	You're Never Weird on the Internet (Almost)
Didion, Joan	The Year of Magical Thinking
Dillard, Annie	An American Childhood
Douglass, Frederick	Narrative of the Life of Frederick Douglass, An American Slave
Eggers, Dave	A Heartbreaking Work of Staggering Genius
Fey, Tina	Bossypants
Foer, Jonathan Safran	Eating Animals
Frank, Anne	Diary of a Young Girl
Fuller, Alexandra	Don't Let's Go to the Dogs Tonight
Gantos, Jack	Hole in My Life
Gilbert, Elizabeth	Eat, Pray, Love
Grandin, Temple	Thinking in Pictures: My Life with Autism
Griffin, John Howard	Black Like Me
Grogan, John	Marley and Me: Life and Love With the World's Worst Dog
Halpern, Justin	Sh*t My Dad Says
Hornbacher, Marya	Wasted: A Memoir of Anorexia and Bulimia
Kaysen, Susanna	Girl, Interrupted
Keller, Helen	The Story of My Life
King, Stephen	On Writing: A Memoir of the Craft
Lipsky, David	Absolutely American: Four Years at West Point
Lorde, Audre	Zami: A New Spelling of My Name
Luttrell, Marcus	Lone Survivor: The Eyewitness Account of Operation Redwing and the Lost Heroes of SEAL Team 10
Malcolm X	The Autobiography of Malcolm X
Mandela, Nelson	Long Walk to Freedom
Martin, Steve	Born Standing Up: A Comic's Life
McBride, James	The Color of Water: A Black Man's Tribute to His White Mother
McCourt, Frank	Angela's Ashes
Moody, Anne	Coming of Age in Mississippi
Nafisi, Azar	Reading Lolita in Tehran
Northrup, Solomon	Twelve Years a Slave
Obama, Barack	Dreams From My Father: A Story of Race and Inheritance
Poehler, Amy	Yes Please
Powell, Julie	Julie and Julia: 365 Days, 524 Recipes, One Tiny Apartment Kitchen
Salzman, Mark	True Notebooks: A Writer's Year at Juvenile Hall
Satrapi, Marjane	Persepolis I & II
Sebold, Alice	Lucky
Sedaris, David	Me Talk Pretty One Day
Strayed, Cheryl	Wild: From Lost to Found on the Pacific Crest Trail
Vincent, Norah	Self-Made Man: One Woman's Year Disguised as a Man
Yasso, Bart	My Life On the Run: The Wit, Wisdom, and Insights of a Road Racing Icon
Yousafzai, Malala	I Am Malala: The Girl Who Stood Up for Education and Was Shot by the Taliban
Zailckas, Koren	Smashed: Story of a Drunken Girlhood