

## AP Language and Composition—Summer Reading Assignment 2016-2017

### Objective:

Most of the reading material for AP Language and Composition comes from nonfiction sources. Nonfiction varies significantly, in style and purpose, from its fictional counterpart. Because AP English Language and Composition is a deviation from the typical English class, the following summer assignment is designed to offer you an opportunity to familiarize yourself with this type of study and to gauge your prior knowledge and skills.

### Assignment:

Select two books from the list of nonfiction books to read this summer. For each book, write a one page analysis of two rhetorical strategy or technique applied in the book then explain the author's purpose or message. Finally, describe how a strategy or technique conveys the author's message and the effect. (Can be the same as above or different). Typed work is expected as you will be uploading it to Google Classroom once we have visited the lab and signed up to use Google with your DPS Google email account. (Rhetorical techniques and strategies: **diction, syntax, imagery**, tropes, schemes, allusions, anecdotes, causal argument, definitional argument, parallelism, reasoning, evidence, parody, satire, **tone**, shifts, etc...)

### One-pager requirements:

MLA heading, MLA bibliography of the book you read, a paragraph summarizing the message, and a paragraph that cites and analyzes two rhetorical techniques or strategies from a specific excerpt you found interesting. The two citations must follow MLA formatting for in-text citations.

### Reading List Suggestions:

*The Immortal Life of Henrietta Lacks*—Rebecca Skloot

*The Emerald Mile*—Kevin Fedarko

*Seabiscuit: An American Legend*—Laura Hillenbrand

*Heartbreaking Work of Staggering Genius*—David Eggers

*Life is So Good*—George Lawson

*Zoo Keeper's Wife*—Diane Ackerman

*Me Talk Pretty One Day*—David Sedaris

*Dead Wake*—Erik Larson

*Imperial Life in the Emerald City: Inside Iraq's Green Zone*—Rajiv Chandrasekaran

*Flags of Our Fathers*—James Bradley with Ron Powers

*Dreams From My Father*—Barack Obama

*Under the Banner of Heaven*—Jon Krakauer or other novels by Krakauer

*A Short History of Everything*—Bill Bryson

*Quiet: The Power of Introverts in a World That Can't Stop Talking*—Susan Cain

*Stiff: The Curious Lives of Human Cadavers*—Mary Roach

*On Writing*—Steven King

*Julie and Julia: 365 Days, 524 Recipes, 1 Tiny Apartment Kitchen*—Julie Powell

*The Sixth Extinction: An Unnatural History*—Elizabeth Kolbert

(Or other **approved** nonfiction book. If unsure, see Mr. Silvers or Mr. Sheehan before the end of the year.)