



JAMES MARTIN HIGH SCHOOL

Pre-AP English I

This summer we are focusing on nonfiction texts. Nonfiction books can be classified in many sub-groups such as literary nonfiction, biography, memoir, or informational. You should choose a nonfiction book from the list below that you can discuss in class and that is appropriate to the level of text expected in a 9th grade PAP class. Choose something that is of interest to you personally. Then you will complete a one pager and find a thematically connected current event.

Reading Assignment

As you read, think about a theme the author is presenting to the reader. Mark passages that help reveal the theme you have chosen. You should mark a minimum of 4 key passages.

Reading List

Pre-AP English I Non-Fiction Summer Reading List

Stiff by Mary Roach

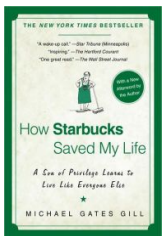
ISBN: 0393050939



Stiff is an oddly compelling, often hilarious exploration of the strange lives of our bodies postmortem. For two thousand years, cadavers—some willingly, some unwittingly—have been involved in science's boldest strides and weirdest undertakings. They've tested France's first guillotines, ridden the NASA Space Shuttle, been crucified in a Parisian laboratory to test the authenticity of the Shroud of Turin, and helped solve the mystery of TWA Flight 800. For every new surgical procedure, from heart transplants to gender reassignment surgery, cadavers have been there alongside surgeons, making history in their quiet way.

How Starbucks Saved My Life by Michael Gates Gill

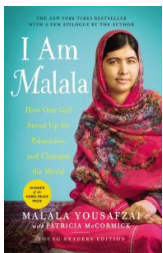
ISBN: 9781592404049



In his fifties, Michael Gates Gill had it all: a mansion, a wife and children, a six-figure salary, and an Ivy League education. But in a few years, he lost his job, got divorced, and was diagnosed with a brain tumor. With no money, he was forced to get a job at Starbucks where fate brings an unexpected teacher who opens his eyes to what living well really looks like. At one of America's most intriguing businesses, an inspiring friendship is born, a family begins to heal, and, thanks to his unlikely mentor, Gill finally experiences a sense of self-worth and happiness.

I Am Malala by Malala Yousafzai

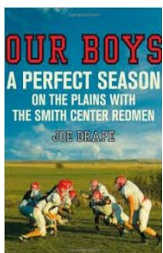
ISBN: 9780316327916



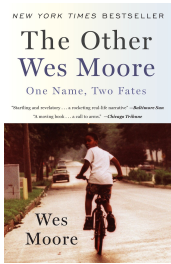
Malala Yousafzai was only ten years old when the Taliban took control of her region. Raised in a once-peaceful area of Pakistan transformed by terrorism, Malala was taught to stand up for what she believes - educated. And on October 9, 2012, she nearly lost her life for the cause: She was shot point-blank while riding the bus from school. No one expected her to survive. Now Malala is an international symbol of peaceful protest. Malala's story will open your eyes to another world and will make you believe in hope, truth, miracles and the possibility that one person -- one young person -- can inspire change in her community and beyond

Our Boys by Joe Drape

ISBN-13:9780312662639



The football team in Smith Center, Kansas, holders of the nation's longest high-school winning streak, embrace a philosophy of life taught by their legendary coach, Roger Barta: "Respect each other, then learn to love each other and together we are champions." But as the Redmen embarked on a quest for a fifth consecutive state title, they faced a potentially destabilizing transition: the greatest senior class in school history had graduated, and Coach Barta was contemplating retirement. In Smith Center—population: 1,931—this changing of the guard was seismic. Hours removed from the nearest city, the town revolves around "our boys" in a way that goes to the heart of what America's heartland is today.



The Other Wes Moore: One Name, Two Fates by Wes Moore

ISBN: 0385528191

Two kids with the same name lived in the same decaying city. One went on to be a Rhodes Scholar, decorated combat veteran, White House Fellow, and business leader. The other is serving a life sentence in prison. Here is the story of two boys and the journey of a generation. In December 2000, the Baltimore Sun ran a small piece about Wes Moore, a local student who had just received a Rhodes Scholarship. The same paper also ran a series of articles about four young men who had allegedly killed a police officer in a spectacularly botched armed robbery. The police were still hunting for two of the suspects who had gone on the lam, a pair of brothers. One was named Wes Moore.

One Pager Assignment

A One-Pager is a way of responding to a piece of writing on a single sheet of paper. It represents your own written and graphic interpretation of what you have read. It may be very literal (just based on the facts or information in the piece) or it may be a symbolic representation of the piece, which is preferred and generally scores higher. It helps you as a reader to visualize what you are reading.

Directions:

Must be on standard sized, unlined paper

Must **fill** the entire page

Writing must be handwritten in ink... **no pencil**

Use colored pencils or markers unless the piece demands black and white

Requirements for Visual:

The following required elements may be arranged on the page in any way you choose.

1. Display the author, title, and genre of the book you read.
2. Prominently display the **theme**. Be sure that you theme is a complete sentence. (See note below.)
3. Display **two or more pieces of textual evidence** from the text that reveal the author's theme.
4. Draw an insightful, impressive graphic representation that **illustrates** the theme. This should not be computer generated.

Theme -A unifying idea; underlying meaning of literary work Hint: When thinking about theme, first think of the subject. Then, ask yourself "What is the author saying about that subject?"

Example

Toni Morrison's Beloved suggests that while the past must be released in order for humans to move forward with their lives, it cannot be forgotten; repressing the past completely is just as damaging as holding on to it too tightly.

Current Event:

Find an article about a current event that connects to your book through your thematic statement and provide a brief explanation of the thematic connection.

- Good sources: NY Times, Washington Post, LA Times, Houston Chronicle, Miami Herald
- PRINT out this article
- Write a brief paragraph explaining the thematic connection between your book and the article

This must be **stapled** to the **back** of the visual.

We are looking forward to a great year. Remember to plan ahead so that you have plenty of time to complete this assignment. If you have any questions, feel free to email either Mrs. Perinza Reddic at preddic@aisd.net or Mrs. Jennifer McNairn at jmcnairn@aisd.net.

Enjoy your summer!

Pre-AP English I Team