

**2021 Knight High School**  
**AP English Language and Composition (English 11) Required Summer Assignment**

**This introductory college-level writing course emphasizes how to communicate effectively and efficiently through three primary lenses: argument, rhetorical analysis, and synthesis. While most people enjoy an engaging argument or a debate, one of the most productive ways to challenge someone's opinion is by doing so in an organized, methodical, and intelligent manner. In order to prepare for AP Language and Composition, you will need to practice your critical reading and writing skills over the summer.**

**Summer Assignment Specifics:**

**Reading**

**Read the following two nonfiction texts. I attached links to free PDFs, but, if you prefer, you can purchase them at a bookstore or on Audible (where each author reads their own text.) Whichever you choose, I do recommend listening to each author recite some of their lines from their respective books.**

- **Trevor Noah's [Born a Crime](#)**
- **Jeanette Wells' [The Glass Castle](#)**

**Writing**

**Then, think carefully about the purpose and the message of each book and how each author effectively communicates his/her main points. Make some thematic connections.**

**After doing so, in a clearly organized way and in complete sentences, write a half page of detailed, explanatory notes per author on each specific topic below (approximately 4 one-sided pages total). Do not quote; utilize the strength of your voice.**

**What does each author communicate about the relationship (positive or negative) between each of the following topics, and how do you know?**

- **loyalty and betrayal (½ page for Noah; ½ page for Wells)**
- **blood relatives and family (½ page for Noah; ½ page for Wells)**
- **informal learning and formal education (½ page for Noah; ½ page for Wells)**
- **resilience and trauma (½ page for Noah; ½ page for Wells)**

**Some Notes**

**We will discuss the subjects in these texts consistently throughout the year, so it is essential that you read them and understand them. Moreover, during the first weeks of school, you will be completing multiple writing and spoken assessments that test your knowledge.**

**All work should be handwritten neatly in pen with a sensical format and should look remarkably different from other students' examples/explanations. Academic integrity is crucial, and, therefore, any copying will result in a zero on the entire assignment.**

**The required assignment is due the first Friday of the Fall semester during class and is a significant portion of your quarter grade. If you have clarifying questions over the summer, you can email Ms. Aviles at [maviles@avhsd.org](mailto:maviles@avhsd.org). I look forward to seeing you in the new academic year.**