

AP Language and Composition Outside Reading Assignment

Students will read the book *The Water is Wide* by Pat Conroy. We will use the book throughout the semester to begin discussions with the following units: community, education, work, identity, nature, ethics, language, and pop culture.

Summary of *The Water is Wide*: The island is nearly deserted, haunting, beautiful. Across a slip of ocean lies South Carolina. But for the handful of families on Yamacraw Island, America is a world away. For years the people here lived proudly from the sea, but now its waters are not safe. Waste from industry threatens their very existence unless, somehow, they can learn a new way. But they will learn nothing without someone to teach them, and their school has no teacher—until one man gives a year of his life to the island and its people (Amazon). This book is based on real events here in Beaufort County.

Students will have a test on the book the second Friday of the semester. Please complete the following assignments which are due the day of the test.

Please join the AP Lang Outside Reading and Resource Google Classroom page [jpokbwz](#). If you have questions, please post them to the Google Classroom stream.

Reading Journals; complete DURING reading.

1. While reading, keep track of important events, characters, symbols, motifs, themes, figurative language, plot points, and conflicts aka. annotations. You can use sticky notes, write directly in the book, or create notes on a Google Doc or notebook. **Note:** I will check for sticky notes and/or your own notes throughout the text. **These notes will be a separate formative grade.**
2. **THEN, type/write your responses to each of the following questions for each chapter.** You will complete these questions for each chapter.
 - a. State the **three most important events** that occur during each chapter. Explain why these events are most important for that part of the story and how these events develop the idea of community. Explain why these details are important. Provide textual evidence as part of your discussion.
 - b. Explain **at least two conflicts** that develop during each chapter. Then, discuss why these conflicts are important within the story and develop the theme topic of community. Discuss why those conflicts are important. Provide textual evidence as part of your discussion.
 - c. Discuss your personal feelings about **each of the main characters** in each chapter. Develop a log of character traits (positive and negative) for each character and use textual evidence from the book to support the character traits. Include why you like or dislike the character based on traits, actions, or other reasons. This character reading log should span over the course of the entire book. Include how each character impacts the community.

Part 2 Post Reading: Please do the following assignment below.

Hilton Head Island Research Paper: Write a minimum of a three-page research paper about the history of our community. Include some of the following topics within your research paper:

the founding of the island, Revolutionary War, pre-Civil War/plantation life, Civil War, Gullah-Geechee culture, life before the bridge, life after the bridge, education, work, and wildlife.

The essay needs to be in correct MLA format, Times New Roman size 12 font, double spaced. You also need to include correct MLA in-text citations, and a works cited page.

All facts need to be cited, failure to cite correctly or at all will result in a 0 and a plagiarism referral. Make sure you are using reliable sources; the library and local museums are a great place to start! The works cited page does not count towards the page limit.

Purdueowl.com has an MLA formatting and citation guide for assistance (link on Google Classroom).

Bonus for a maximum of 10 bonus points, either create a 20 slide PowerPoint presentation that incorporates photos and facts from your research paper. Please cite the photos in the works cited page.