AP Human Geography Summer Work 2025
Due: First Day of School

Introduction: This summer, you will read the book *The Spirit Catches You and You Fall Down* by Anne Fadiman. The story is one of culture clash, science vs. faith, and the struggle to move forward when the past is so very heavy. Following the reading, you are to write a thesis-driven, three - four paged paper that answers one of the following questions. In addition to using the book, you are also expected to cite at least three other (reliable) sources to write your paper. The works cited page does not count as one of your three - four pages of writing.

1. What is the difference between myth and medicine in the Hmong culture? What aspects of H'Mong history explain the relationship between myth and medicine?

2. Over many centuries, the Hmong people have had to protect their sovereignty through force, and have also been forced to emigrate at various historical junctures. How has their history of war and violence affected their culture? Can you see any examples in the contemporary Hmong people living in the United States?

3. There's a chapter in the book titled "Why Did They Pick Merced?" - answer that question in the context of both the Hmong migrant community at-large, and for Lia's family.

4. When polled, Hmong refugees cited "difficulties with American agencies" as a more serious problem than "war memories" or "separation from family." What evidence do you see from the book and your research that supports the results of this poll? Why do you think this problem is so important to Hmong refugees?

When looking for reliable sources, I suggest looking at the author's sources for her own research (provided in her footnotes and in the Bibliography), and then looking at these databases:

- Britannica High School
- World History (Gale in Context)
- JSTOR
- Global Issues (Gale in Context)
- Kanopy
- New York Times
- Boston Globe
- Health and Medicine (Gale OneFile)

Your paper will be graded based on the following criteria:

Concepts and Processes ● Identify and define important terminology ● Explain how the progression of time influences the actions of people(s) ● Explain how different locations influences the actions of people(s)	10 points
Spatial Relationships ● Accurately describe spatial relationships between people(s) and place(s) ● Accurately explain the significance of important place(s) to people(s) ○ This includes what might be located at those places	10 points
Data Analysis ● Identify and explain accurate examples that back up your thesis statement	10 points
Source Analysis ● Accurately use outside sources to create and prove an accurate and in-depth thesis	10 points
Academic Responsibilities ● Thesis is complex and provides an important idea that answers the question ● Proper MLA formatting ● 3 - 4 pages ● Proper Works Cited page	10 points
Total	**50 points**