

Summer Reading assignment for English 11cc 2026
Ms. Long

Your summer reading assignment is the graphic memoir *They Called Us Enemy* by George Takei.

The least expensive version is available via amazon.com, but you can also find it at bookshop.org, Barnes and Noble, and directly from the publisher, Top Shelf Productions.

In addition, it is available via the public library system as an e-book.

You'll want to have a copy for the first few days of school.

After you've read *They Called Us Enemy*, **there is a two-part written assignment.** Please do all your own work. **DO NOT USE ONLINE SOURCES FOR ANY OF THIS.** I am curious as to what *you* are thinking and I'm interested in how *you* write. **This isn't about being right or wrong.** I want to know how the book affected you as well as to hear about your experience reading a graphic memoir.

1. Reading Response.

Type this up and save on a Google doc.

You will be posting to Canvas (our LMS for English 11cc; we will not be using Schoology. We will be going over how to access Canvas on the first day of school. Be sure to bring your Chromebooks or laptops with you!)

- What was your overall reaction to reading this book?
- Choose one page of the book that speaks to you. Explain how the words and images work together to create meaning/get you to feel something. Be sure to record which page you are discussing. Be as specific as you can.
- This response will also function as a diagnostic tool for me to assess your writing.

2. *They Called Us Enemy* gives us an intimate look into an important part of George Takei's life. Write your own personal narrative that gives me a glimpse into your life. Choose an incident or a memory that you think reveals something about who you are as a person. Write a 2 page personal narrative that brings that incident to life. Feel free to use dialogue and description. All good writing comes to life with concrete details (words that appeal to our senses), so try to incorporate as many of those as you can.

Help me to experience this memory! **Please print your narrative** and bring it with you on the first day of school.

OPTIONAL: You may choose to do this as a **four (4)-panel (minimum) graphic narrative.** Please note, however, that everyone will be asked to revise their personal narrative into the first writing assignment, so it's up to you if you'd like to present it first visually. If you're a visual artist, this option might appeal to you!