

AP Language and Composition Summer Work
2026-2027
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This summer you will have the opportunity to read a culturally significant and poignant, modern classic. *The Things They Carried* by Tim O'Brien is a groundbreaking collection of interconnected stories blending fact and fiction to explore the Vietnam War. It chronicles the physical and emotional burdens carried by Alpha Company, demonstrating how stories help soldiers process trauma, guilt, and the devastating realities of combat. We will be using this novel to analyze the art of language in storytelling and to examine the complex global impact of warfare. This work reaches deep into the reader's mind to touch on questions and ideas concerning what it means to be human in the face of inhumanity. The work that you will complete along with your reading is intended to guide you as you experience and probe deeply into the purpose and impact of this literary classic.

You will complete the following assignments

- 1) Join Google Classroom with class code: **bz6efojm**
- 2) Buy the correct version of the novel. Here is a link to the book I want you to get. It is important that we have the same edition, so that we have the same page numbers
<https://www.amazon.com/Things-They-Carried-Tim-O'Brien/dp/0618706410>
- 3) Read and annotate the novel, I have posted a guide for novel annotations in Google Classroom under Summer Work. We will quiz over this book on the first day of class. You will be able to use both your book and your annotations.
- 4) Complete the reading guide questions and the writing assignment that I have also posted in Google Classroom. You will submit an electronic copy of this to Google Classroom by midnight prior to the first day of class. You will also bring a hard copy with you to school on the 1st day. We will use it to facilitate a class discussion over the novel before you write your first timed writing assignment. You will be able to use your novel and your reading guide questions on your timed write.
- 5) Complete the Common Lit assignment posted in Google Classroom titled "Introduction to the Vietnam War".
Join my common Lit class by using the following:

www.commonlit.org/enroll

and entering the class code:

7LHZ6GXG

HAPPY READING (you're going to love it)!!! If you have any questions please do not hesitate to contact me.