

**To: AP English Language & Comp Students**  
**From: PRHS English Department**  
**Re: Summer Reading Assignment**  
**Date: June 2026**



Since you are accepting the challenge of Advanced Placement English Language & Composition, you are **required to READ ALL FOUR WORKS** listed below. In addition, you are expected to participate in GoogleDoc Discussions (see attached directions).

**Every student is required to have completed all the books by the first full week of class in September.** The first in-class writing assignments will focus on the summer reading and will count as grades for the first marking period. Several additional assignments will also be given.

Below are descriptions of your readings:

- ***All the Pretty Horses* (McCarthy—modern American novel)**  
This is the tale of John Grady Cole, who at sixteen finds himself at the end of a long line of Texas ranchers, cut off from the only life he has ever imagined for himself. With two companions, he sets off for Mexico on a sometimes idyllic, sometimes comic journey to a place where dreams are paid for in blood.
- ***Into the Wild* (Krakauer—contemporary nonfiction)**  
McCandless had given \$25,000 in savings to charity, abandoned his car and most of his possessions, burned all the cash in his wallet, and invented a new life for himself. Not long after, he was dead. *Into the Wild* is the mesmerizing, heartbreaking tale of an enigmatic young man who goes missing in the wild and whose story captured the world's attention.
- ***Unwind* (Shusterman—contemporary YA/dystopian fiction)**  
In a future world where those between the ages of thirteen and eighteen can have their lives "unwound" and their body parts harvested for use by others, three teens go to extreme lengths to uphold their beliefs--and, perhaps, save their own lives.
- ***Unwholly* (Shusterman—contemporary YA/dystopian fiction)**  
After Connor, Lev, and Risa's high-profile revolt against unwinding, using teens to provide tissues for transplant, a sadistic bounty hunter who takes "trophies" from the unwinds he captures starts to pursue them.

It is recommended that you give yourselves enough time to read carefully and thoughtfully. **You should use post-its to annotate.** All four texts are being distributed to you.

To help you pace your reading/manage your time and engage in good discussion, here is the reading schedule that should be followed:

***All the Pretty Horses*** (finish reading and participate in GoogleDoc discussion **by Monday, July 13th**)

***Into the Wild*** (finish reading and participate in GoogleDoc discussion **by Monday, August 3rd**)

***Unwind*** (finish reading and participate in GoogleDoc discussion **by Monday, Aug. 17th**)

***Unwholly*** (finish reading and participate in GoogleDoc discussion **by Wednesday, Sept. 2nd**)

***Have a great summer and happy reading!***

## DIRECTIONS FOR GOOGLDOC DISCUSSION ENTRIES AP LANGUAGE AND COMPOSITION

While you are reading this summer, you will have an opportunity to reflect on the readings, post questions and share your insights with your classmates and your teacher. This will happen using a GoogleDoc.

### **What is a GoogleDoc?**

It is an online document to which people are invited so that they can collaborate and share ideas.

### **Getting Started:**

**Step 1**—Email Mrs. Papadopoulos at [academicsforlife@gmail.com](mailto:academicsforlife@gmail.com)

Include the following message:

Hi Mrs. Paps,

This is type your name. Here is my email address. I am taking identify the honors course.

**Step 2**—You will receive an “invitation” from Mrs. Papadopoulos to join a GoogleDoc. Click the link in the invitation, so that you can access the GoogleDoc.

**Step 3**—As you read your texts, you should access the GoogleDoc and post your contributions (follow the directions included in the GoogleDoc). You will be invited to a separate GoogleDoc for each novel which you are reading.

(NOTE: Each time you complete a post, make sure to identify yourself—name and date.

Log on early and follow the reading schedule so that you can benefit from the on-line discussions.)

### **Frequently Asked Questions:**

*When are these reading logs due?* As you read, take the time to complete your posts. Make sure that you complete your responses by the first full week of school.

*How do I access the GoogleDoc?* Besides access from the emailed invitation, you can also go to google.com and sign-in to your account.

***Who do I contact over the summer if I have questions?*** You can email Mrs. Papadopoulos at [academicsforlife@gmail.com](mailto:academicsforlife@gmail.com)