

**AP Language and Composition / Ingmundson**  
**Summer Assignment — 2026**

Many AP courses include some kind of summer assignment. The purpose of this assignment is not to give you work for the sake of giving you work. Rather, the goal is to keep your skills sharp over summer break. The AP Language and Composition curriculum contains a significant amount of content, and we will need to move quickly to ensure you are prepared for the exam. To do that, you must maintain your sharpness as a critical reader, writer, and thinker.

To that end, please complete the following task over summer break:

**Choose a full-length book of your choice.** By full-length, I mean something substantive, typically 150 pages or more. It can be a work of fiction, such as a novel, or a work of nonfiction, such as a biography, memoir, or deep dive into a specific topic.

**Read the book over the course of the summer.** As you read, **take notes** on specific moments in the book that:

- Surprise you
- Connect to something else you've read, seen, or learned about
- Change an idea or assumption you've held
- Appeal to you emotionally
- Leave you feeling stumped or confused

You can take these notes on a separate piece of paper or on sticky notes that you attach to particular pages. You should all be comfortable with annotation after taking English II with me.

**Prepare the outline of a 6–8 minute “book talk” presentation.** Your presentation should include:

- **Who the author is and what other kinds of books they have written.** If the book is an autobiography or memoir by a celebrity or public figure, explain what they are famous for.
- **Why did you decide to read the book?**
- **What is the book about, and why might someone else want to read it?** Don't give away everything — pique our interest.
- **What choices does the author make to hold your attention, shape your thinking, or make the subject matter meaningful?** You should include specific details and passages to answer this question substantively.
- **Whether you felt the book had any weaknesses.** Don't say something like “it was boring.” Boredom is a choice, and is indicative of a closed mind. You can, however, critique an author for overemphasizing a particular topic, plot point, or character.

When you return to school at the end of the break, I will give you some time to convert your notes into a Google Slides presentation. I will grade your presentation as part of your Quarter 1 grade.

If you are struggling to pick a book, I strongly encourage you to visit your local library and talk to someone at the circulation desk. Librarians often have **amazing** book recommendations.