ELA Credit By Exam
Updated November 2026

Rochester Community Schools

English Language Arts (ELA) Credit By Exam

True Stories exam

11-12 PREREQUISITE: English/Language Arts 10
Students in this semester literature course analyze the elements of nonfiction storytelling and distinguish between literary truth vs. non-fictional truth. Students will be presented a variety of contemporary non-fiction works (from multiple genres and in multi-media) that exposes them to a diversity of life experiences and will offer the opportunity to examine author's craft in conveying truth in narrative form. Literary options include Educated, Persepolis, Maus, The 57 Bus, Hidden Figures, and Just Mercy.

Read **both** of the following memoirs:

- *Educated*
- *Just Mercy*

Read at least **one** of the following graphic novels:

- *Maus*
- *Persepolis*

Listen to the following podcast:

- *Serial*, Season 1

On the CBE date:

- ☐ Be prepared to take an MC test based on the concept of Literary Nonfiction, nonfiction text features, including text features/elements of graphic novels.
- ☐ Be prepared to answer some short answer questions related to the novels you chose to read. You will need to address specific moments in the stories to do this well.
- ☐ Be prepared to write a short essay that connects your understanding of literary nonfiction and its impact.

In order to earn credit for this course, students must earn a 77% or higher on each of the components of the exam. Failure to reach that standard on each section will result in no credit.