

June 2017

## Summer Reading Assignment

Dear AP English III student:

Welcome to AP English Language and Composition, and congratulations on taking this big step toward college-level studies! For summer reading, you have been assigned Tim O'Brien's *The Things They Carried* and the One Book, One School selection. In addition to these full-length texts, you will also read two essays: "Hope, Despair and Memory" by Elie Wiesel and "Politics and the English Language" by George Orwell.

The texts listed below can be accessed online at the following links as well as at the GHS website (go to FOR STUDENTS tab then click on SUMMER ASSIGNMENTS link) and Google Classroom for AP English III 2017-2018.

[\*The Things They Carried\* by Tim O'Brien](#)

["Hope, Despair and Memory" by Elie Wiesel](#)

["Politics and the English Language" by George Orwell](#)

You will soon receive an electronic invitation to join the Google classroom, where you will upload your summer reading assignments as Google Docs. Due dates have been posted. Essays/assignments must be typed, double-spaced, with standard margins (1 to 1.5 inch), 12-point Times New Roman font. The essay for *The Things They Carried* must be at least 750 words, have an interesting title and must respond to the prompt with a clear thesis and textual evidence. DO NOT PLAGIARIZE. You will also submit all work to [turnitin.com](http://turnitin.com) by the due date (Class ID 15505946; Enrollment Key apeng3).

for *The Things They Carried*

1. Throughout the book, O'Brien casts doubt on the veracity (truthfulness) of his stories. Why does he do so? Does it make you more or less interested in the book? Does it increase or decrease your understanding? What is the difference between facts and truth? Is it fair to readers that the author uses elements of his own life and blurs the lines between fact and fiction in these stories?

for "Hope, Despair and Memory"

1. Create a list of at least ten statements, words, and/or phrases that you have questions about or that stick out to you as important. Focus on identifying vocabulary and imagery with figurative and/or connotative meanings. In one fully developed paragraph, explain how these words/phrases/statements contribute to Wiesel's main idea.

for "Politics and the English Language"

1. Use a dictionary to define the italicized words from the excerpt below.

"So, fantastic linguistic creations like *abequitate*, *bulbulcitate* and *sullevation* appeared in these books alongside *Archgrammacian* and *contiguate*, with lengthy definitions; there were words like *necessitude*, *commotrix* and *parentate*—all of which are now listed."

2. Then, in one fully developed paragraph beneath your definitions, respond to the following prompt: "How does barraging the reader with complex vocabulary without context develop the author's central idea in this section?"

You must complete and upload all of the assignments by the dates posted on Google classroom and Turnitin. Have a safe, fun summer. I look forward to your return to school in September.

Sincerely,

Mrs. Gorman

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