

Required Summer Work for AP Language 2018-2019

Seffner Christian Academy



Required of all students:

Antoine de St.-Exupéry, *Wind, Sand and Stars*
Henry David Thoreau, *Civil Disobedience*
Nathaniel Hawthorne, *The Scarlet Letter*

Each student choose ONE of the following six books:

Elisabeth Elliot, *Through Gates of Splendor*
John Gunther, Sr., *Death, Be Not Proud*
Randy Pausch, *The Last Lecture*
Piers Paul Read, *Alive, The Story of the Andes Survivors*
Booker T. Washington, *Up from Slavery*
Elie Wiesel, *Night*

****See below for detailed information****



AP English Language & Composition at SCA

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Seffner Christian Academy

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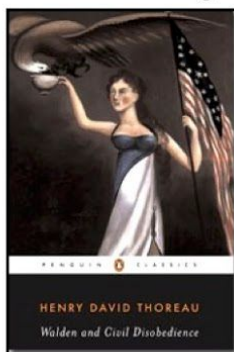
Summer Reading List for AP English Language Comp

AP English Language & Composition will emphasize **non-fiction**. The first three books on the summer reading list are required of all students, along with the assigned writing. For the fourth book choice students are allowed to choose from a short list. With one exception, the novel *The Scarlet Letter*, each of these four books is non-fiction. The course, itself, will contain fiction works, short stories, poems and plays, as well as non-fiction.

Wind, Sand and Stars is a translation from the French by the author of the famous children's fable, *The Little Prince* (*Le Petit Prince*).

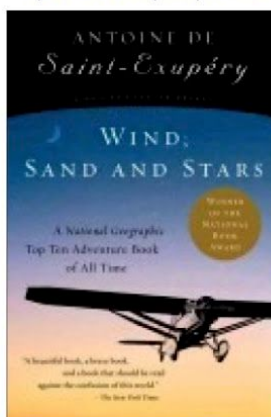
Civil Disobedience by Henry David Thoreau. This essay is based on Thoreau's experience of protesting paying taxes to support what he considered to be an unjust war: The War With Mexico.

Writing assignment for "Civil Disobedience" - choose a single quotation or

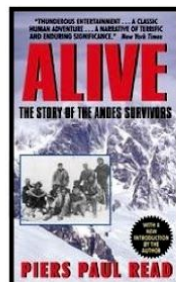


statement from the text and write a 2-page, double-spaced essay in which you respond to the quote, either agreeing or disagreeing. Be sure to give supporting arguments for your point of view, using current illustrations and examples. ("Civil Disobedience" essay is usually included with Thoreau's book, *Walden*. It may also be found online)

St. Exupéry's book is based on his experiences as an *Aéropostale* pilot. See



page 2 of this newsletter for the *Wind, Sand and Stars* writing assignment.



Writing assignment for *Alive*, by Piers Paul Read: Write a persuasive essay in which you deal with the moral dilemmas faced by the survivors of this plane crash. Do you agree or disagree with their actions and their justification for these actions? Take a side, using text-specifics to state your views. (approximately 2 pages, double-spaced)

Make a Fourth Choice from This List of Thoughtful Books:

Death Be Not Proud by John Gunther, Sr. The author's only son, a promising 17-year-old prep school student bound for Harvard, is stricken with a brain tumor. How does he cope?

The Last Lecture by Randy Pausch, literally the last message left behind by a young professor.

Night by Elie Wiesel, the story of

a survivor of a Nazi death camp. *Through Gates of Splendor* by Elisabeth Elliott, written by the widow of one of five martyred American missionaries.

Alive is the true story of the survivors of a plane crash in the Andes, including the Uruguayan national rugby team.

The Year's Thematic Units

SUMMER READING
POWER OF THE WORD

THE EXAMINED LIFE
INDIVIDUAL V SOCIETY

A LIBERAL EDUCATION
THE JAUNDICED EYE

SEMESTER EXAM

QUEST FOR FREEDOM
AND JUSTICE

AGE OF EXPATRIOTS
FACT OR FICTION?

TIME AND ETERNITY
AP EXAM

Written Work Format

- MLA STYLE
- THESIS STATEMENT IN FIRST PARAGRAPH
- FOLLOW AN OUTLINE
- STRONG INTRO AND CONCLUSION
- EACH PARAGRAPH SETS FORTH A POINT
- GENERALIZATIONS SUPPORTED BY TEXT-SPECIFICS AND DIRECT QUOTES, WHERE APPROPRIATE.



French edition of
St. Exupéry book

Wind, Sand and Stars—by Antoine de St. Exupéry

A characteristic of this non-fiction work is that it reads like a novel. Why is this so? Is it really necessary to make such a strong division between "fiction" and "non-fiction"? From your reading of this book, write a well-developed essay of at least two pages, double-spaced, in which you discuss the artistic qualities of St. Exupéry's writing. Focus on these three areas:

1. the book's structure or organization
2. The use of conscious literary devices, such as simile, metaphor, personification, imagery, etc.

3. The author's style, in terms of his use of language (note his diction and syntax) .

Suggestions:

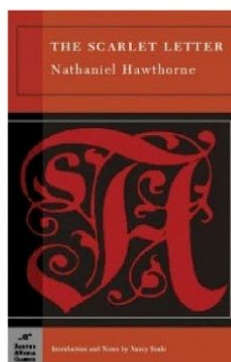
Use any good literary handbook to help you if you do not know the meaning of the above terms.

Be sure to use specific references to the text (not just page numbers), including quotes.

Have a single thesis statement early in your essay and develop your thesis throughout your paper.

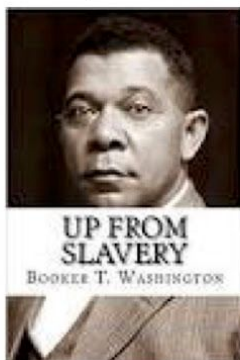
Caution: Do not plagiarize—be sure to give credit when quoting ideas, quoting either directly or indirectly. A Google© search will disclose any inappropriate borrowing without giving credit. Students who plagiarize will be penalized by loss of credit, so please use good judgment.

Up From Slavery by Booker T. Washington. Focus on the author's struggles against racial prejudice. The author clearly states he is a devoted Christian believer. Find examples of how he responded to challenges and criticisms of himself and his race in a very biblical manner. Use examples from one or more periods of his life and his career as an educator. Essay: 2-pages, double-spaced.



The Scarlet Letter by Hawthorne

This novel is considered to be one of the three or four greatest classics of American literature. As you read this book note the chapter structure, especially the scenes featuring the scaffold in the center of the village. Write a **two page essay, double-spaced**, in which you discuss the times this scaffold is featured in the novel, what happens at each time, and what you believe Hawthorne is trying to accomplish in his use of this location.

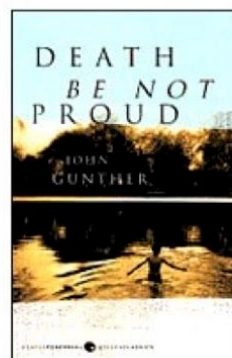


Death Be Not Proud—by John John Gunther, Sr.

If you choose this book, your essay assignment will be to write a critique or critical review of the book. The writer states one of his main purposes in writing is to offer solace or comfort to families who are going through the same experience (i.e.—the terminal illness of a loved one, especially one who dies young). From that point of view you may judge the book on how well you think the author fulfills his goal.

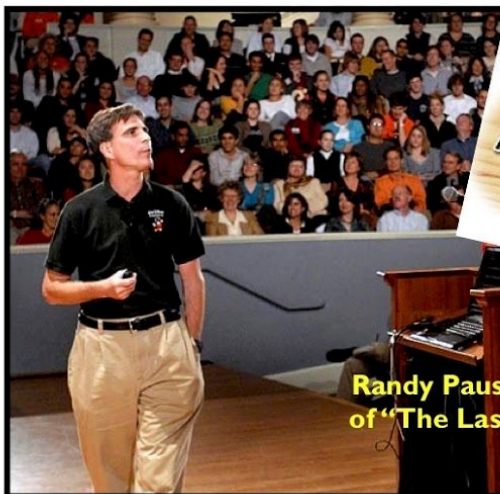
"Death be not proud,
For some hath called thee
mighty and dreadful, but thou
art not so"

- from the sonnet by 17th Century English writer, John Donne
- This is the source of John Gunther's title (an example of literary allusion)

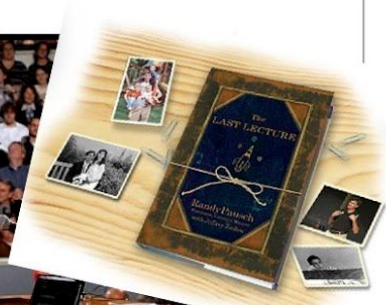


The Last Lecture—by Randy Pausch

For this book choice your writing assignment is to use Pausch's idea as a starting point, then write your own last lecture. That is, take the hypothetical position you only had a few weeks to live. What would you say to those left behind? Pick a target audience (or audiences), which could include your own family, your friends, members of your church or youth group, other students at school, even people out in the world. Would your message be the same to all of them? Would you spend time evaluating your own life or dwell on advice for others? It's up to you.



Randy Pausch, author of "The Last Lecture"

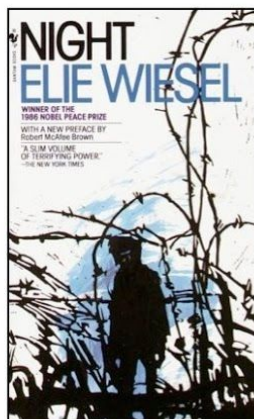


Night—by Elie Wiesel

This man's story is true, based on his own experience. Taking the facts of the book, examine the way in which various characters, including the author, responded to the horrors of concentration camp life. Imagine you are writing a letter, in which you comment on their experience and how you would encourage them that, in spite of what they have experienced, there is still much to be grateful for in his life.



Anne Frank, who did not survive the Nazi concentration camp.



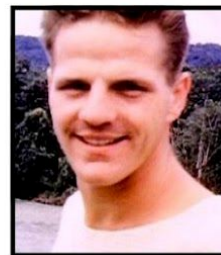
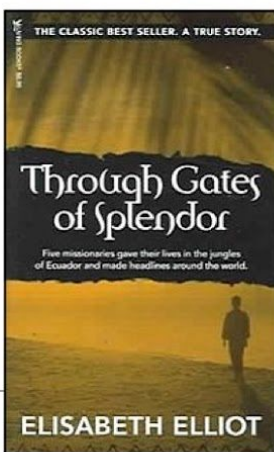
"He is no fool who gives up what he cannot keep to gain what he cannot lose."

- Jim Elliot
Killed by Auca
tribesmen in Ecuador,
1956

Through Gates of Splendor—by Elisabeth Elliot

Imagine you are the grown-up child of one of these five American missionaries who were martyred trying to bring the gospel to a "Stone Age" tribe in Ecuador. Your father was killed when you were little. Suppose you were to return to the scene of the deaths. Write a journal (at least half-a-dozen entries) in which you discuss your feelings on returning to the scene. (Hint: you are welcome to follow "The

Rest of the Story," if you wish to consult other accounts of what happened after this book was written. One book, The End of the Spear, and a feature-length film, do tell the story of one of the children of the slain missionaries). You may also use an online journal format, or carry on an e-mail dialog with another person about your reactions to returning to the scene many years later.



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Make friends with
writers and books.
Photo: Jane Austen
and friends in Bath
England, 2009.



Summary of Reading/ Writing

Assignments:
Three texts re-
quired of all stu-
dents:

1. essay on *Civil Disobedience*
2. Essay on *Wind, Sand and Stars*
3. Essay on *Scarlet Letter*

4. Writing assignment on one of these six books:

- . *Alive*
- . *Death be not Proud*
- . *The Last Lecture*
- . *Night*
- . *Through Gates Of Splendor*
- . *Up from Slavery*



Be sure to proofread your text

Questions: Feel free to email
your teacher during the sum-
mer.