

***AP English Language and Composition***  
**Summer Reading 2019**

***Mr. Comerford***  
***jcomerford@wyoarea.org***

The focus of AP English Language and Composition is twofold: understanding, analyzing, and writing nonfiction prose and engaging with ideas to develop and support our own arguments. In addition to the required reading assignments listed, I strongly encourage you to read independently over the summer, for pleasure and to expand your boundaries.

This year, students must read two books:

Everyone must choose and read one of the following books:

- *On Writing: A Memoir of the Craft* by Stephen King
- *The Sense of Style: The Thinking Person's Guide to Writing in the 21<sup>st</sup> Century* by Steven Pinker

Everyone must choose and read one of the following books:

- *The Immortal Life of Henrietta Lacks* by Rebecca Skloot
- *Outliers* by Malcolm Gladwell
- *Killers of the Flower Moon: The Osage Murders and the Birth of the FBI* by David Grann
- *In Defense of Food: An Eater's Manifesto* by Michael Pollan
- *The Short and Tragic Life of Robert Peace* by Jeff Hobbs
- *Educated: A Memoir* by Tara Westover

Students will be assessed on both books, so thorough and genuine post-it note annotating is required. The criteria for successful annotating include the following:

- Reflective, thoughtful, and insightful interaction with the text
- Annotations that address the following questions:
  - What is the author's argument about his or her content?
  - What evidence in support of that argument seems most important?
  - What connections between the content of the book and your own background knowledge can you make?
  - What questions emerge for you as a reader?