

English 4 Advanced / Dual Credit: U of L English 101 and 102

Summer Reading

Hello future seniors! Below are options for summer reading. I am thrilled about this list; it is the first time I have been able to feature nonfiction selections instead of just novels. When I began this plan, I first picked a book of essays (*The Best American Essays*). But I worried it was too broad and instead picked a book that focused *On Writing* (Stephen King). But I worried that reading about writing might not appeal to someone who was not a teacher and switched to a true crime thriller: *In Cold Blood*. But I worried the gore might be disturbing and by now you can see where this is going. Ultimately, I have opted to share my entire “shelf” of nonfiction favorites.

Choose TWO of these books to read, aiming for 400-600 pages of text. While reading, annotate the texts at least once every other page (for about 250 total annotations). The goal here is quality rather than quantity. For each annotation, highlight or underline specific details in the text, label with a rhetorical technique, and use power verbs to make a brief comment about how the device reflects the intended audience or the author’s purpose or message. These elements may differ from previous literature-focused instruction; thus, use this as a learning experience for thinking about nonfiction as you will be composing a variety of rhetorical works over the course of these two college classes.

Labels identify what elements are used:

- *Structure: organization, flow of ideas/argument, shifts, transition phrases*
- *Support: description, dialogue, detail, examples, evidence, analogies, anecdotes, hypotheticals, compare/contrast, cause/effect*
- *Figurative Language, Imagery*
- *Rhetorical Devices: polysyndeton, asyndeton, parallelism, anaphora, rhetorical questions, irony, hyperbole, understatement*
- *Syntax (sentence structure, punctuation)*
- *Diction (word choice patterns) -> Connotation (word associations) -> Tone (attitude of speaker)*
- *Point of View (speaker background/perspective)*

Comments show why elements are used:

- *Purpose: why did the author create this text?*
- *Audience: who is the intended audience?*
- *Message: what truth is the author conveying?*

“When you write, you lay out a line of words. The line of words is a miner’s pick, a woodcarver’s gouge, a surgeon’s probe.”	Exemplary	Proficient	Basic	Unacceptable
	<u>Parallelism/metaphor</u> : compares words to the tools, demonstrating the message that writing is a skill which requires work	<u>Parallelism</u> compares words to the tools of other crafts	<u>Parallelism</u> shows how she feels about writing	<u>Parallelism</u> OR Good point! Love this! OR Similar sentences

This collection contains bestselling, award-winning works from the past few decades, so I am confident about the quality of these works. However, they also strongly reflect my own alternating obsessions: cooking, sports, mountaineering, murder investigations, the Holocaust, the craft of writing, the history of racism, death and grief, etc. That said, if you find another *quality* work of nonfiction that better reflects your own interests, I am open to approving another title; please email me to discuss any alternatives. Or, if you read through the list and simply cannot decide which might be best for you, contact me and I would be oh-so-happy to talk through matching a book to your personality.

	Title	Author/Editor	Description (Length)
Graphic Memoirs	<i>Persepolis: the Story of a Childhood</i>	Marjane Satrapi	coming of age in revolutionary Iran (160 pages)
	<i>Hyperbole and a Half</i>	Allie Brosh	illustrated essays on depression, dogs, etc. (385 pages)
	<i>They Called Us Enemy</i>	George Takei	childhood imprisoned in American concentration camp during WWII (208 pages)
	<i>Maus: a Survivor's Tale</i>	Art Spiegelman	author struggles to come to terms with his parents' brutal past at Auschwitz (159 pages)
Memoirs/ Auto-bios	<i>The Glass Castle</i>	Jeannette Walls	story of childhood with eccentric, bordering on abusive, parents (288 pages)
	<i>The Year of Magical Thinking</i>	Joan Didion	an exploration of loss, illness, death, grief (242 pages)
	<i>A Grief Observed</i>	C.S. Lewis	reflection on life, death, and faith (76 pages)
	<i>Night</i>	Elie Wiesel	a candid, horrific, and deeply poignant autobiographical account of his survival as a teenager in the Nazi death camps (120 pages)
	<i>I Am Malala: The Girl Who Stood Up for Education and Was Shot...</i>	Malala Yousafzai	the remarkable tale of a family uprooted by global terrorism, of the fight for girls' education (368 pages)
	<i>Educated</i>	Tara Westover	a young girl who, kept out of school, leaves her survivalist family and goes on to earn a PhD from Cambridge University (352 pages)
	<i>Wild</i>	Cheryl Strayed	a thousand mile hike on the Pacific Crest Trail with no training to deal with the loss of her mother and her marriage (336 pages)
	<i>Me Talk Pretty One Day</i>	David Sedaris	humorous essays on his attempts to learn French, his childhood lisp, his upbringing in North Carolina (272 pages)
	<i>Tuesdays with Morrie</i>	Mitch Albom	a chronicle of magical conversations with a mentor in the last months of the older man's life (192 pages)
	<i>Kitchen Confidential</i>	Anthony Bourdain	delectably shocking banquet of wild-but-true tales of life in the culinary trade (312 pages)
	<i>Angela's Ashes</i>	Frank McCourt	poverty, starvation, and exuberance in depression Ireland (368 pages)
About the Craft	<i>I Know Why the Caged Bird Sings</i>	Maya Angelou	African-American writer traces her coming of age (304 pages)
	<i>Understanding Comics: The Invisible Art</i>	Scott McCloud	explore the secret world between the panels, through the lines, and within the hidden symbols of a powerful but misunderstood art form (224 pages)
	<i>On Writing</i>	Stephen King	shares the experiences, habits, and convictions that have shaped him and his work (288 pages)
	<i>Bird by Bird</i>	Anne Lamott	practical advice for aspiring writers and life in general (256 pages)
	<i>The Writing Life</i>	Annie Dillard	illuminates the dedication, absurdity, and daring that characterize the existence of a writer (111 pages)
	<i>The Best American Food Writing 2019</i>	Samin Nosrat, editor	think critically about what you're eating and how it came to your plate, while still leaving you clamoring for seconds (288 pages)

Other Nonfiction	<i>The Best American Essays 2019</i>	Rebecca Solnit, editor	this searching, necessary collection grapples with what has preoccupied us in the past year—sexual politics, race, violence, invasive technologies (260 pages)
	<i>The Immortal Life of Henrietta Lacks</i>	Rebecca Skloot	story of a woman whose cancerous cells were developed in culture without her knowledge (381 pages)
	<i>Into the Wild</i>	Jon Krakauer	a young man from a well-off family walks into the wilderness and never returns (240 pages)
	<i>Into Thin Air</i>	Jon Krakauer	Everest climb gone wrong (332 pages)
	<i>Stamped</i>	Jason Reynolds, Ibram X. Kendi	shines a light on the many insidious forms of racist ideas--and on ways readers can identify and stamp out racist thoughts in their daily lives (321 pages)
	<i>In Cold Blood</i>	Truman Capote	the first, some say the best, true crime novel about the murder of a family in Kansas (343 pages)
	<i>Fever Pitch</i>	Nick Hornby	captures the fever pitch of fandom—its agony and ecstasy, its community, its defining role in thousands of young men’s coming-of-age stories (247 pages)
	<i>Friday Night Lights</i>	H.G. Bissinger	captures a season in the life of Odessa and shows how single-minded devotion to the team shapes the community and inspires -- and sometimes shatters -- the teenagers who wear the Panthers' uniforms (432 pages)
	<i>The Omnivore’s Dilemma</i>	Michael Pollan	continues to transform the way Americans think about the politics, perils, and pleasures of eating (450 pages)
	<i>The Other Wes Moore</i>	Wes Moore	How, then, did one grow up to be a Rhodes Scholar, decorated veteran, White House Fellow, and business leader, while the other ended up a convicted murderer serving a life sentence? (250 pages)
	<i>The Devil and the White City</i>	Erik Larson	the Chicago World’s Fair and the first serial killer (447 pages)
	<i>The Devil in the Shape of a Woman</i>	Carol Karlsen	the status of women in colonial society affects the Salem witch accusations (384 pages)
	<i>Midnight in the Garden of Good and Evil</i>	John Berendt	entertaining true crime story set in Savannah, Georgia (400 pages)
	<i>Nickel and Dimed</i>	Barbara Ehrenreich	Ehrenreich moves into a trailer and works as a waitress, hotel maid, and Wal-Mart sales clerk; expose on poverty (256 pages)
	<i>Fast Food Nation</i>	Eric Schlosser	In a wonderfully horrifying way, this book exposes the American fast food industry’s evil side (384 pages)