

Mrs. Schools
AP US History
Summer Assignment

Welcome to AP US History! You will have three assignments for the summer. One is to read two different books and respond to the below listed prompt. You will also write a book review of one of them. Also, you will read chapters 1-3 in the textbook and answer the focus questions for those chapters. I will share those questions with you on Google Drive and put a place to turn them in on Canvas once it is populated in August. All work will be due the first week of school.

In AP US History, our objective is to be able to understand the thematic learning objectives of American history. Those are:

American National Identity
Politics and Power
Work, Exchange, Technology
Culture and Society
Migration and Settlement
Geography and the Environment
America in the World

Your task is to pick **two books** – they have to be from two different categories. I have broken the books out mostly by time period, but some are themes or events. What you need to do is pick two books from two different sections and put your name on the Google Sheet that I have shared with you. Once all of the slots for a certain book are filled, you cannot pick it. There are five slots for each book. This is to make for a rich discussion when we get back to school in August. I do not want everyone to read the same book. Look the books up and see what interests you.

After reading your two books, you will pick **one** of the **Thematic Learning Objectives** listed below for **EACH of your books** and discuss how your books fit in to it. You do not have to pick the same Thematic Learning Objective for each book, but you can if that is what works for you. For example, if you read a book about immigration – maybe pick migration and settlement. Why did the characters emigrate? Why did they leave their native country and how do they migrate to and within America?

So, answer the question-

How is the thematic learning objective you picked evident in each book you read? By this I mean, how does the author or characters give explanation of your chosen thematic learning objective? How can we understand the thematic learning objective through the books you chose? What evidence does the author include?

This should be a well thought out response (approximately 2 pages in length) complete with evidence and MLA parenthetical citations. Find evidence in your books to back up the theme you choose. I will share a page from the College Board with you on Google Drive to further explain the Thematic Learning Objectives.

You will write a book review of **ONE** of the books with the attached rubric and directions, but you will answer the prompt mentioned above about **BOTH**. So, you will be turning in three things: the book review on one book, and two different responses to the prompt, one for each book and your focus questions. In August when Canvas is populated, I will put a place for you turn each thing in as an online submission. See book review information at the very bottom of this document. Only do a book review for ONE book. You chose which one you would like to review. Be prepared to have a discussion when we return to school. Please email me with any questions at aschools@msjacad.org.

AP US History
Summer Reading Choices

Please pick TWO books – they have to be from different categories – each category is separated by space and the category bolded – pick two books from two different categories and submit your choices on the Google Sheet by putting your name under the title of your two books. Spots are limited, so please do this as soon as you can. Research your book and choose two that interest you. IF your book is also a movie and you watch the movie and do not read the book, I will be able to tell! Also, please make sure you have the correct author and book. There are many books with similar or the same titles out there!

1600s

Mayflower, A Story of Courage, Community and War– Nathaniel Philbrick
The Heretic's Daughter – Kathleen Kent
A Mercy – Toni Morrison
The Puritan Dilemma, the Story of John Winthrop – Edmund S. Morgan

1700s

Never Caught, the Washington's Relentless Pursuit of their Runaway Slave, Ona Judge – Erica Armstrong Dunbar
The Invention of Wings – Sue Monk Kidd
Virginia Dynasty – Lynn Chaney
Paul Revere's Ride – David Hackett
The Autobiography of Benjamin Franklin- Benjamin Franklin

1800s

Narrative of the Life of Frederick Douglass – Frederick Douglass
Twelve Years a Slave – Solomon Winthrop
The Daring Ladies of Lowell – Kate Alcott

Days without End – Sebastian Barry
Bury my Heart at Wounded Knee – Dee Brown
The Amistad Rebellion – An Atlantic Odyssey of Slavery and Freedom – Marcus Rediker
Destiny of the Republic – A Tale of Madness, Medicine and Murder of a President – Candice Millard
My Antonia – Willa Cather
Incidents in the Life of a Slave Girl – Harriett Jacobs
Ordeal by Hunger – The Story of the Donner Party – George R. Stewart
Far and Away – Sonia Massie

Civil War/Reconstruction

Troubled Refuge, Struggling to Find Freedom in the Civil War – Chandra Manning
Cold Mountain – Charles Frazier
Mrs. Lincoln's Dressmaker -Jennifer Chiaverini
Manhunt – The 12 Day Chase for Lincoln's Killer – James L. Swanson
Widow of the South – Robert Hicks
Reconstruction - America's Unfinished Revolution 1863 -1877 – Eric Foner

Turn of 20th century, early 1900s

Up from Slavery – Booker T. Washington
The Soul of Black Folks – W.E.B. DuBois
Triangle, the Fire that Changed America – David Von Drehle
How the Other Half Lives – Jacob Riis
The Jungle – Upton Sinclair
A Tree Grows in Brooklyn – Betty Smith
Twenty Years at Hull House – Jane Addams

1920s

Babbitt – Sinclair Lewis
This Side of Paradise – F. Scott Fitzgerald
A Farewell to Arms – Ernest Hemmingway
Not Without Laughter – Langston Hughes
Home to Harlem – Claude McKay

Great Depression, 1930s

Let Us Now Praise Famous Men – James Agee and Walker Evans
The Grapes of Wrath – John Steinbeck
The Worst Hard Time, the Untold Story of those who Survived the Dust Bowl- Timothy Egan
Their Eyes Were Watching God – Nora Zeal Hurston

World War II

Helmet for my Pillow – Robert Leckie
When the Emperor was Divine – Julie Otsuka

Hotel on the Corner of Bitter and Sweet – Jamie Ford
Facing the Mountain – Daniel James Brown

1950s and 1960s

The Feminine Mystique – Betty Freidan
A Raisin in the Sun – Lorraine Hansberry
Silent Spring – Rachel Carson
On the Road – Jack Kerouac
The Joy Luck Club – Amy Tan

Civil Rights Movement

A Song Flung up to Heaven by Maya Angelou
The Grace of Silence by Michele Norris
The Nickel Boys by Colson Whitehead
In My Place by Charlayne Hunter-Gault
The Heart of a Woman by Maya Angelou
The Help – Katheryn Stockett

Vietnam War

The Things they carried – Tim O’Brien
American Reckoning – The Vietnam War and our National Identity – Christian G. Appy
Speak, Okinawa – Elizabeth Miki Brina

Immigration

The Far Away Brothers, Two Young Migrants and the Making of an American Life – Lauren Markham
This Side of Brightness – Colum McCann
Homecoming – Yaa Gyasi
The Bad Muslim Discount – Syed M. Mossad
A Place for Us – Fatima Farheen Mirza
Heart of Fire – Mazie K. Hirono
’Tis – Frank McCourt

*PLEASE NOTE: SOME OF THE BOOKS LISTED MAY CONTAIN SITUATIONS AND LANGUAGE FROM THE HISTORICAL TIME PERIOD IN WHICH THEY WERE WRITTEN OR SET.

Requirements for book review:

Your book review should be a five-paragraph essay that is about 3-4 pages in length inclusive of the following information;

I. Introduction

- A. Why did you choose this book?
- B. Brief introduction to story

II. Plot summary/Theme of book

- A. What is the main idea of the book?
- B. How does it relate to the Civil Rights Movement and what we are studying in class?
- C. Where does it take place?
- D. Who are the main characters?
- E. What happens?
- G. What efforts did the characters in your book make toward equality and how were they received by the public?
- H. How does reading this book open your eyes to American history?

III. Your Review

- A. Would you recommend this book to a friend/classmate?
- B. Why or why not?
- C. Did you like the book? Why or why not?
- D. What suggestions would you make to the author to make it better if you did not enjoy it?

IV. Character identification

- A. With which character did you most identify?
- B. Why?
- C. What did you like about this character?

V. Summary/Conclusion

- A. What did you learn from reading this book?
- B. How has reading this book enhanced your knowledge of American history?
- C. Summarize your thoughts

Rubric - Project is worth a maximum of 48 points – Five points deducted per day late.

Grammar/Spelling/ Punctuation	There are no errors 12 points	There are 1 to 3 errors 11 – 9 points	There are 4 errors or less 8-5 points	There are more than 5 errors 5 points or less
Historical Accuracy	Book review is in line with storyline of book 12 points	Book review has 1 – 3 discrepancies 11-9 points	Book review has more than 3 discrepancies 8-5 points	It is evident that student did not read this book 5 points or less
Interest	Book review is well written and very interesting 12 points	Book review was interesting to read 11-9 points	Writer had little to no details that were interesting or poignant 8-5 points	It is evident that writer of this review did not take the time to include enough detail 5 points or less
Persuasiveness	After reading this book review, I was able to see writer's point of view 12 points	Writer had plenty of details but did not get her point across 11-9 points	Writer was lacking enough details for reader to make a decision about reading this book 8-5 points	It is evident that writer did not put enough into the review for one to decide if she should read it or not 5 points or less