



Summer Reading
Assignment
11th Grade
AP Language and Composition

Boyd-Moline Library Media Center
The First Academy

Summer Reading AP Language and Composition

Unbroken

Author: Laura Hillenbrand

This is story of a young bombardier in World War II, Louis Zamperini, and his amazing story of survival. This might be the first book-length nonfiction story you have read. It requires patience and is not designed to be read quickly. Pace yourself.

I am only requiring one essay from UNBROKEN. It should be two pages long.

ASSIGNMENT:

The subtitle of the book is: A World War II story of survival, resilience, and redemption. Write an essay that integrates all three themes into a cohesive essay (survival, resilience, and redemption.)

Elements of Style

Author: E B White and William Strunk

This classic work on the correct use of grammar, was first published in 1954 by E B White and William Strunk. This short book continues to educate students (and adults) on the basic rules of grammar and style.

AP English Language and Composition requires a basic level of stylistic competency. The class is rigorous and demanding. A systematic study of this book will pay large dividends. The book explains the elementary rules of usage, elementary principles of composition, and gives great advice on form. It also has sections devoted to both words that are commonly misused and words that are often misspelled.

The course requires a great deal of writing. All writing is done longhand on paper. The AP exam requires students to write for two hours on three separate essays.

Students have no access to spell-check or grammar-check during my class or on the exam.

Knowing the basic rules of grammar is critical to succeed in my class and in college.

ASSIGNMENT:

Read this book in its entirety (it is 54 pages long). Spend time working on the areas in which you struggle. The book is filled with examples that will facilitate your comprehension. The rules are simple: you just need to know them.

PURPOSE:

During your junior year you will begin taking the SAT and the ACT. Critical reading, knowledge of grammar, and writing, are skills that you must do well on if you hope to succeed on the tests. Every hour that you spend with this book will make you a better writer, which, in turn, will make you a better reader.

Here are a few reviews:

“Buy it, study it, enjoy it. It’s as timeless as a book can be in our age of volubility.”

The New York Times

“The book remains a nonpareil: direct, correct, and delightful.”

The New Yorker

“This excellent book, which should go off to college with every freshman, is recognized as the best book of its kind we have.”

St. Paul Dispatch Pioneer Press