



**AP ENGLISH LANGUAGE (12th grade)
SUMMER 2010 READING
AND WRITING ASSIGNMENT**

This assignment is in addition to the summer reading required for all upper school classes.

Assignment: Read one of the following books: *The Autobiography of Malcolm X*, by Alex Haley; *Hunger for Memory*, by Richard Rodriguez; or *The Glass Castle*, by Jeanette Walls, and write a summary and review of the book using the following guidelines.

1. Start with an introductory paragraph that mentions the author, title, year of publication, context in which the book was written, and the author's purpose in writing. These three memoirs are quite different, yet each intends to show something about American society and the personality and resilience of the author.
2. Continue with one or two paragraphs that summarize three or four of the main incidents of the book. Choose the incidents that you find most interesting, and be sure to give enough detail to make it clear that you have read the book.
3. Include a paragraph or two in which you thoughtfully comment on and analyze the author's style (choice of language, sentence structure, use of figurative language, and so on) and tone (attitude toward the subject). Remember to quote (and cite with page numbers) words or phrases to illustrate your analysis. You should have at least three quotations from the work.
4. Conclude with a paragraph of evaluation that discusses the following but not as short answers to questions: What does a reader learn about the art of writing from reading the book? What is the single most memorable element of this book? Would you recommend this book to others? Why or why not?
5. If you use any criticism or reviews from other people, or even get ideas from reviews, you must give credit to these sources by citing them, or you will be guilty of plagiarism. For example, if you read reviews of a work on Amazon.com, and you decide to use an idea from a review, you must cite the review you use. This assignment is not a research paper, and you are under no obligation to read or use others' reviews. However, some students find it helpful and interesting to see what other people have written about a book.
6. Please limit your review to **four typed pages (size 12 font, double-spaced)**. This assignment is due on the first day of class in September, 2010.