

**AP Language and Composition 2022-23 Mount de Sales Academy Ms. Eileen Carlson**

Welcome to AP Language and Composition!

In this course, you will focus on close reading and effective, analytical writing, exploring nonfiction texts in American Literature.

This summer, you will read two books which are set during the 1930's. Both occur during the Great Depression and the buildup to WWII and illustrate the role of sports during trying times. Both books are meticulously researched and well written, offering us a dramatic glimpse into a pivotal time in American history. I think you will enjoy reading the books. Please allow yourself **time** to read closely and annotate thoughtfully.

You should acquire the paperback copy of each of these two books:

***The Boys in the Boat* by Daniel James Brown**

**ISBN 978-0-14-312547-1**

***Seabiscuit: An American Legend* by Laura Hillenbrand**

**ISBN 0-449-00561-5**

You will find three documents attached:

- **Close Reading Notes for *Seabiscuit*,**
- **Close Reading Notes for *The Boys in the Boat*, and**
- **a third document containing both a **Summary Analysis chart for both books**, and a **Short Writing Response** for each book.**

You are also required to **annotate** in your books. Use your preferred methods – underline, circle, highlight--and also write brief notes and responses in the margins. Annotating your text forces you to read actively, think critically, and respond thoughtfully. This is an essential skill to practice.

You should annotate the books and complete the Close Reading Notes as you read. The Summary Analysis and Writing Responses can be completed when you have finished reading.

The attached assignments are due on the first day of school in August. You can also expect a short quiz on each book when you return.

If you have questions, come see me in ZC102. During the summer, you can email me at [ecarlson@mountdesales.net](mailto:ecarlson@mountdesales.net).

I look forward to seeing you in August! Enjoy your summer, stay safe, and start reading.

Ms. Carlson

**Seabiscuit and The Boys in the Boat : Summary Analysis Name \_\_\_\_\_**

Analyze these six elements in each of the books. Write brief notes.

	<b><i>Seabiscuit</i> by Laura Hillenbrand</b>	<b><i>The Boys in the Boat</i> by Daniel James Brown</b>
<b>Writer</b>  What do you know about the writer?  What does the writer bring to the text?		
<b>Audience</b>  For whom was the book written? How does the author appeal to that group?		
<b>Context (history)</b>  What is the historical context and why is it important?		

<p><b>Exigence</b></p> <p>What inspires, stimulates, provokes, prompts the writer to create this text?</p>		
<p><b>Purpose</b></p> <p>What the writer/speaker hopes to accomplish. What does she/he want the audience to do/thnk/believe?</p>		
<p><b>Message/Subject (themes)</b></p> <p>What <b>universal main ideas</b> does the writer convey?</p> <p>Write a theme statement. (What does the author believe about the idea?)</p>		





**THE BOYS IN THE BOAT Close Reading Notes**

**Name** \_\_\_\_\_

As you read, **ANNOTATE** in your book and **MAKE NOTES** on this chart.

Also note effective **literary elements** in the text as you read.

Write details, but write in brief notes – bullet points are fine.

**Note PAGE NUMBERS for supporting details.** You may add pages if you need more space.

	<b>Character Descriptions</b> Name the character. Use vivid words/phrases, add supporting details and <b>note page numbers</b> .	<b>Context/Defining Events</b> Relate to history and/or to the plot.	<b>Significance</b> Why is this important?
<b>Prologue</b>			
<b>Part One:</b> <b>Ch. 1-5</b> <i>1899-1933</i> <i>What Seasons They Have Been Through</i>			
<b>Part Two:</b> <b>Ch. 6-8</b> <i>1934</i> <i>Resiliency</i>			

**THE BOYS IN THE BOAT Close Reading Notes**

**Name** \_\_\_\_\_

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Write details, but write in brief notes – bullet points are fine.

**Note PAGE NUMBERS for supporting details.** You may add pages if you need more space.

	<b>Character Descriptions</b>	<b>Context/Defining Events</b>	<b>Significance</b>
<b>Part Three:</b> <b>Ch. 9-12</b> 1935 <i>The Parts That Really Matter</i>			
<b>Part Four:</b> <b>Ch. 13-19</b> 1936 <i>Touching the Divine</i>			
<b>Epilogue</b>			

**SEABISCUIT****Name** \_\_\_\_\_As you read, **ANNOTATE** in your book and **MAKE NOTES** on this chart.Also note effective **literary elements** in your text as you read. You may add pages if you need more space.*Part I functions as an exposition: introduces the characters & settings, the backstories of the characters.**Write details, but write in brief note format – bullet points are fine. **Note PAGE NUMBERS** for supporting details*

<b>Part I Ch. 1-6</b>	<b>Character Description</b> Use vivid words/phrases, add supporting details and <b>note page numbers.</b>	<b>Context/Defining Events</b> Relate to history or to the plot.	<b>Significance</b> Why is this important?
Charles Howard			
Tom Smith			
Seabiscuit			
Red Pollard			
George Woolf			
Other pertinent characters or events			



**SEABISCUIT**

Name \_\_\_\_\_

As you read, **ANNOTATE** in your book and **MAKE NOTES** on this chart.Also note effective **literary elements** in your text as you read. You may add pages if you need more space.

*Part II contains the rising action of the plot and enhances the historical context. Part III functions as the resolution. Continue to write details, but write in brief note format – bullet points are fine. **Note PAGE NUMBERS for supporting details***

<b>Parts II-III</b> <b>Ch. 7-Epilogue</b> <i>Write chapter titles.</i>	<b>Plot Events/Characters</b> Note important events, character motives, changes, influences, etc. Include supporting details and <b>page numbers</b> .	<b>Significance</b> Why is this important to the story?
Ch. 7 <i>Learn Your Horse</i>		
Ch. 8		
Ch. 9		
Ch. 10		
Ch. 11		
Ch. 12		
Ch. 13		
Ch. 14		
Ch. 15		

**SEABISCUIT****Name** \_\_\_\_\_As you read, **ANNOTATE** in your book and **MAKE NOTES** on this chart.Also note effective **literary elements** in your text as you read. You may add pages if you need more space.

<b>Parts II-III</b> <b>Ch. 7-Epilogue</b> <i>Write chapter titles.</i>	<b>Plot Events/Characters</b> Note important events, character motives, changes, influences, etc. Include supporting details and <b>page numbers</b> .	<b>Significance</b> Why is this important to the story?
Ch. 16		
Ch. 17		
Ch. 18		
Ch. 19		
Ch. 20		
Ch. 21		
Ch. 22		
Ch. 23		
Epilogue		