

## 2018-2019 English III Summer Reading Assignment

In Conroe ISD, we encourage all students to read over the summer in order to enrich learning and provoke thought. Summer reading strengthens reading skills, increases academic achievement, fosters a love for reading, and empowers students to become life-long learners.

### Select one of the following books to read this summer:

- *The Glass Castle* by Jeanette Walls
- *The Other Wes Moore* by Wes Moore
- *Enrique's Journey* by Sonia Nazario
- *American Sniper* by Chris Kyle
- *Breaking Night* by Liz Murray

### Reading Focus: Author's Craft

Junior English will routinely ask students to consider the *author's craft*, or *how the author intentionally uses literary devices and structural elements in order to create meaning and also persuade, entertain, or inform an audience.*

Students are strongly encouraged to annotate and take notes in order to identify purposeful author's craft decisions, such as plot elements, conflict, characterization, theme, or any literary elements. Additionally, students should include notes about how these author's craft decisions help to create meaning in their novel. Students should use the notetaking method that is most comfortable for them. Some options for note-taking may include one of the following:

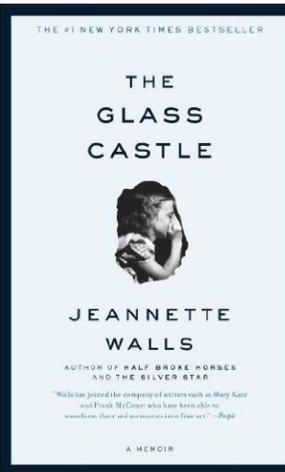
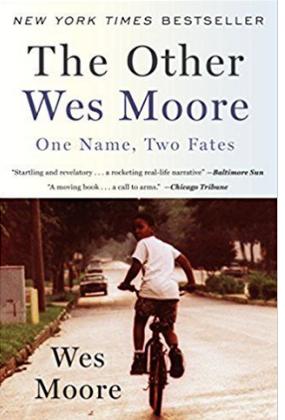
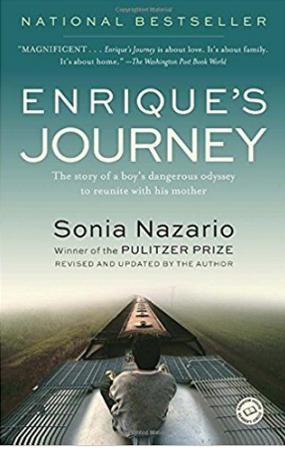
- annotating their book by highlighting important passages, then writing in the margin about why this passage is important. (Highlighting *without* note-taking is *not* helpful.)
- using post-it notes to place a marker on important passages, and then using the post-it to make notes about why the passage is important. (Post-its *without* notes will *not* be helpful.)
- creating a t-chart. Students write down an important quote that exhibits author's craft (along with the page number) on the left, then will write notes about the passage directly across from the quote. Comments should be limited to why this passage is important.

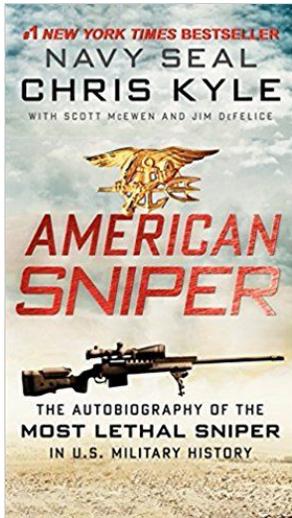
Ideas on what to look for as you read are on the back of this assignment sheet.

Plan to bring your book to class with you upon returning for the first week of school. Students can expect an exam over their summer reading text during the second week of school. In addition, students will use their notes and annotations for additional graded activities, including a **major grade assignment**. You will be using these notes during the first 3 weeks of the new school year. Be ready.

Please note: We will read F. Scott Fitzgerald's *The Great Gatsby* immediately after the summer reading unit. It would be wise to locate a copy of the novel before school begins in order to be ready for the work we will do in class with the novel.

Please use the following information from Amazon.com to help you with your book selection.

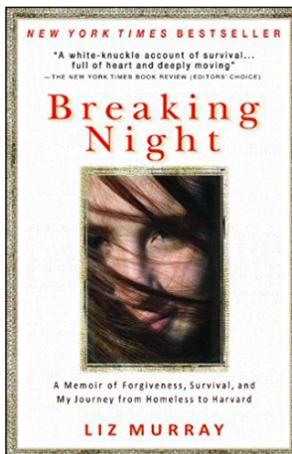
	<p>“Jeannette Walls grew up with parents whose ideals and stubborn nonconformity were both their curse and their salvation. Rex and Rose Mary Walls had four children. In the beginning, they lived like nomads, moving among Southwest desert towns, camping in the mountains. Rex was a charismatic, brilliant man who, when sober, captured his children's imagination, teaching them physics, geology, and above all, how to embrace life fearlessly. Rose Mary, who painted and wrote and couldn't stand the responsibility of providing for her family, called herself an "excitement addict." Cooking a meal that would be consumed in fifteen minutes had no appeal when she could make a painting that might last forever.</p> <p>Later, when the money ran out, or the romance of the wandering life faded, the Walls retreated to the dismal West Virginia mining town -- and the family -- Rex Walls had done everything he could to escape. He drank. He stole the grocery money and disappeared for days. As the dysfunction of the family escalated, Jeannette and her brother and sisters had to fend for themselves, supporting one another as they weathered their parents' betrayals and, finally, found the resources and will to leave home.</p> <p>Hers is a story of triumph against all odds, but also a tender, moving tale of unconditional love in a family that despite its profound flaws gave her the fiery determination to carve out a successful life on her own terms.</p> <p>Note from the English III teachers: Be warned that the book is VERY different from the film, and it will be obvious if you only watch the film. And to be quite honest, we didn't think the movie did the book justice!</p>
	<p>“Two kids named Wes Moore were born blocks apart within a year of each other. Both grew up fatherless in similar Baltimore neighborhoods and had difficult childhoods; both hung out on street corners with their crews; both ran into trouble with the police. 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? Wes Moore, the author of this fascinating book, sets out to answer this profound question. In alternating narratives that take readers from heart-wrenching losses to moments of surprising redemption, <i>The Other Wes Moore</i> tells the story of a generation of boys trying to find their way in a hostile world.”</p>
	<p>“Based on the <i>Los Angeles Times</i> newspaper series that won two Pulitzer Prizes, one for feature writing and another for feature photography, this page-turner about the power of family is a popular text in classrooms and a touchstone for communities across the country to engage in meaningful discussions about this essential American subject.</p> <p><i>Enrique's Journey</i> recounts the unforgettable quest of a Honduran boy looking for his mother, eleven years after she is forced to leave her starving family to find work in the United States. Braving unimaginable peril, often clinging to the sides and tops of freight trains, Enrique travels through hostile worlds full of thugs, bandits, and corrupt cops. But he pushes forward, relying on his wit, courage, hope, and the kindness of strangers. As Isabel Allende writes: ‘This is a twenty-first-century <i>Odyssey</i>. If you are going to read only one nonfiction book this year, it has to be this one.’”</p> <p>Note from the English III teachers: There is a young adult version of this book. Be careful that you purchase the correct one - the normal edition, not the young adult.</p>



“The #1 *New York Times* bestselling memoir of U.S. Navy Seal Chris Kyle.

From 1999 to 2009, U.S. Navy SEAL Chris Kyle recorded the most career sniper kills in United States military history. His fellow American warriors, whom he protected with deadly precision from rooftops and stealth positions during the Iraq War, called him ‘The Legend’; meanwhile, the enemy feared him so much they named him al-Shaitan (‘the devil’) and placed a bounty on his head. Kyle, who was tragically killed in 2013, writes honestly about the pain of war—including the deaths of two close SEAL teammates—and in moving first-person passages throughout, his wife, Taya, speaks openly about the strains of war on their family, as well as on Chris. Gripping and unforgettable, Kyle’s masterful account of his extraordinary battlefield experiences ranks as one of the great war memoirs of all time.”

Note from the English III teachers: Be warned that the book is VERY different from the film, and it will be obvious if you only watch the film.



*Breaking Night* is the stunning memoir of a young woman who at age fifteen was living on the streets, and who eventually made it into Harvard.

Liz Murray was born to loving but drug-addicted parents in the Bronx. In school she was taunted for her dirty clothing and lice-infested hair, eventually skipping so many classes that she was put into a girls' home. At age fifteen, Liz found herself on the streets when her family finally unraveled. She learned to scrape by, foraging for food and riding subways all night to have a warm place to sleep.

When Liz's mother died of AIDS, she decided to take control of her own destiny and go back to high school, often completing her assignments in the hallways and subway stations where she slept. Liz squeezed four years of high school into two, while homeless; won a *New York Times* scholarship; and made it into the Ivy League. *Breaking Night* is an unforgettable and beautifully written story of one young woman's indomitable spirit to survive and prevail, against all odds.

## Novel Annotations

### Plot (What happens?)

- What is the main conflict?
- Where did the story take place? Did it change?
- How was the conflict resolved?

### What's that word?

- Identify any new words and slang words
- Write a brief definition

### Character

- Identify key characters within the story
- Mark significant behavior and dialogue that demonstrate their personality.
- Look for how they interact with or influence other characters
- Add notes to suggest how this behavior is important.

### Theme

- highlight/underline possible themes found within the story
- make notes about what the character (or reader) is learning from the situation

### Author's Style/Author's Tools

- highlight/underline examples of :
  - allusion
  - figurative language
  - imagery
  - symbolism
  - foreshadowing/flashback
  - irony
- make notes about how/why the author uses this tool (explain the effect it has on the reader/character)

## Key Terms

**Theme:** the message that the reader can learn from a story about an abstract idea/topic (such as love, honesty, anger, pride, etc.)

**Allusion:** a direct reference to something else to help add to the meaning/point of the author. "He was a real Romeo with the ladies."

**Imagery:** descriptions that appeal to the five senses (sight, smell, taste, touch, hearing)

**Figurative Language:** similes (compare two unlike things using like or as), metaphor (direct comparison of two unlike things), hyperbole (exaggeration), and personification (describing nonhuman objects as if they are human)

**Symbolism:** a particular object, color or item, or item in nature is used to represent and abstract idea (these are objects that would already be connected to this idea such as light representing goodness or knowledge)

**Foreshadowing:** giving hints about future events in the story

**Flashback:** the story shifts to an event that happened in the past (and tells that story)

**Irony:** when a character or situation turns out differently than expected.