

## Ms. Howell's and Mr. Rigdon's AP English Language (11<sup>th</sup>) Summer Reading Assignment 2017

Welcome to AP English Language!

**For your summer reading assignment, you will be required to read two books and complete two written assignments. This is your first assignment for the year and will count for 60 points.** All work should be in MLA format, typed, 12 point font, Times New Roman, double spaced, with one inch margins. Work for both books and assignments should be in a folder/stapled/bound/etc.

**Summer reading assignments will be DUE at the end of the first full week of class.** Be prepared to discuss the books and your assignments when you return to school.

Enjoy!

*Ms. Howell* and *Mr. Rigdon*

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**Required Reading and Assignments:** You are required to read two books this summer: one play (*A Raisin in the Sun*) **and** one non-fiction memoir (*Narrative of the Life of Frederick Douglass* OR *Angela's Ashes*). There is a written assignment for each book.

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### **Part 1- Required play: *A Raisin in the Sun* by Lorraine Hansberry.**

(There is an electronic version available at

<https://view.officeapps.live.com/op/view.aspx?src=http%3A%2F%2Ffiles.campus.edublogs.org%2Fedublogs.misd.net%2Fdist%2Fd%2F533%2Ffiles%2F2012%2F05%2FA-Raisin-in-the-Sun-Full-Text-of-Play-2998bw4.doc> )

When her deceased husband's insurance money comes through, Mama dreams of moving to a new home and a better neighborhood in Chicago. Her children, however, have other dreams, and problems arise that threaten to rip the family apart.

**Assignment (30 points):** Write a two-page essay comparing and contrasting how the American dream is defined and has evolved in *A Raisin in the Sun* and the non-fiction book that you chose to read (*The Narrative of the Life of Frederick Douglass* OR *Angela's Ashes*). What message does each author appear to send about the American dream? Make sure that your essay has a thesis, supporting evidence in body paragraphs, a strong organizational structure, academic vocabulary, and correct spelling, grammar, and conventions.

## Part 2- Choice of non-fiction memoir:

### *Narrative of the Life of Frederick Douglass* by Frederick Douglass.

(There is an electronic version available at <http://www.gutenberg.org/files/23/23-h/23-h.htm>)

Book description from amazon.com: Frederick Douglass tells his own story in this remarkable narrative—remarkable not only for the life it chronicles but also for its eloquence. Born into a system which forbade learning even the basics of reading and writing, the author discovers ingenious methods for teaching himself. Finally fleeing to the North after nineteen years of forced labor, he is discovered to be a remarkably gifted voice for the enslaved masses in the South and for the struggling, often persecuted and hunted, free black men and women in the northern states.

OR

### *Angela's Ashes* by Frank McCourt

Book description from amazon.com: Born in Brooklyn in 1930 to recent Irish immigrants Malachy and Angela McCourt, Frank grew up in Limerick after his parents returned to Ireland because of poor prospects in America. Mix in abject poverty and frequent death and illness and you have all the makings of a truly difficult early life. Fortunately, in McCourt's able hands it also has all the makings for a compelling memoir.

**Assignment (30 points):** For either *Narrative of the Life of Frederick Douglass* or *Angela's Ashes*, write six (6) half to full page responses using six (6) of the following prompts. Copy the passage which you consider significant and identify the chapter/section and the page number. Record your thoughts and feelings regarding the passage. Do not repeat prompts.

I wonder...	I began to think of...	I suppose...	I don't see...
I like the idea of...	I notice...	Maybe...	What if...?
This reminds me of...	I predict...	Why did...?	If I had been...
I thought...	I was surprised...	I would say...	I don't think...

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Email us with any questions!

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