

“Reading is the sole means by which we slip, involuntarily, often helplessly, into another’s skin, another’s voice, another’s soul.” – Joyce Carol Oates

Valwood Summer Study 2022-23

English I (CP & Honors)

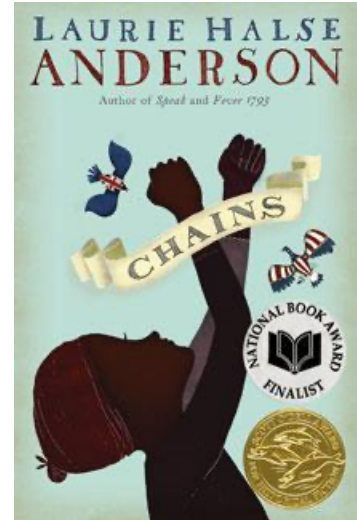
Note: Obtain your own copy of the book and bring it to class when school begins.

1. Read *Chains* (2008) by Laurie Halse Anderson.
2. Annotate the book, considering the following topics:

Friendship	Rebellion
Freedom	Justice
Courage	Arrogance
Loyalty	Ignorance

Tips for annotation:

Avoid the use of highlighters.
Underline key words or phrases and memorable sentences or passages.
Identify unfamiliar words
Write questions in the margins about something you don’t understand
Mark and comment on characters and ideas that you find intriguing
Note the use of literary devices
Make connections to other texts, your life, your world, etc.



3. Pay attention to the quotations at the beginning of each chapter. They come from primary sources. A **primary source** refers to first-hand information that was created at the time of an event. Primary sources can be newspaper articles, speeches, court documents, letters, etc. In her book, Laurie Halse Anderson uses excerpts from primary sources to foreshadow the plot, add historical context, or contrast the plot and history.
4. Within the first two weeks of school, you will use *Chains* to accomplish the following:
 - participate in a Socratic discussion of the book
 - construct a theme statement for the book
 - identify at least three pieces of textual support for the theme statement
 - learn how to incorporate the textual support
 - document the textual evidence
 - write an in-class essay, adhering to MLA style and meeting the expectations of a rubric
5. Know what’s going on in the world. Read an actual newspaper; read the news online; listen to

“Reading is the sole means by which we slip, involuntarily, often helplessly, into another’s skin, another’s voice, another’s soul.” – Joyce Carol Oates

Valwood Summer Study 2022-23

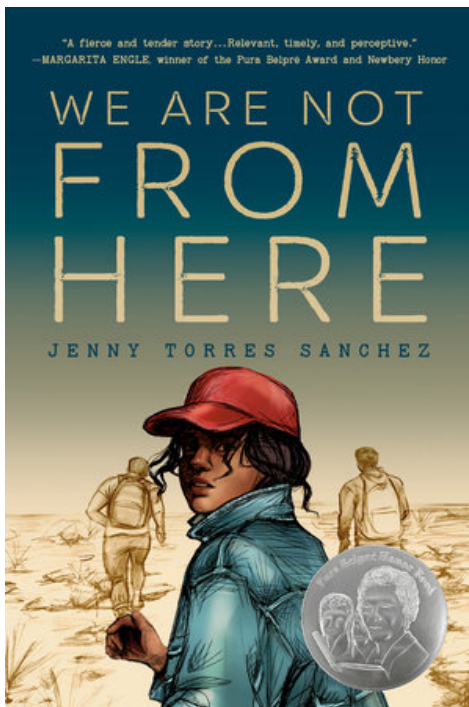
the news on the radio; or watch the news on television. Look into current news or listen to a podcast about subjects that interest you: science, history, math, art, health, medicine, law, politics, sports, fashion, etc.

Keep learning as you enjoy your summer break!

English II

Note: Obtain your own copy of the book and bring it to class when school begins.

- 1. Read *We Are Not From Here* (2020) by Jenny Torres Sanchez.**
- 2. Annotate the book, and consider the following topics as you read:**



- threats—how to deal with them
- money—what it can and cannot do
- surviving and thriving—the difference
- what constitutes bravery
- the plight of immigrants

Tips for annotation:

Avoid the use of highlighters.

Underline key words or phrases and memorable sentences or passages.

Identify unfamiliar words

Write questions in the margins about something you don't understand

Mark and comment on characters and ideas that you find intriguing

Note the use of literary devices

Make connections to other texts, your life, your world, etc.

- 3. After reading the book, write a theme statement to turn in on the first day of class.**
The theme statement, a complete sentence on one of the topics above, will be a generalization about life.

“Reading is the sole means by which we slip, involuntarily, often helplessly, into another’s skin, another’s voice, another’s soul.” – Joyce Carol Oates

Valwood Summer Study 2022-23

Example of a statement for *To Kill a Mockingbird*: Standing up for what is right may require taking risks.
[Avoid statements that reduce the theme to some familiar saying, such as “You can’t judge a book by its cover.”]

4. When school begins, be prepared to accomplish the following with the novel:

- participate in a Socratic discussion of the book during which you will share and discuss your theme statements for the book
- identify at least three pieces of textual support for the theme statement
- learn how to incorporate the textual support
- document the textual evidence
- write an in-class essay, adhering to MLA style and meeting the expectations of a rubric

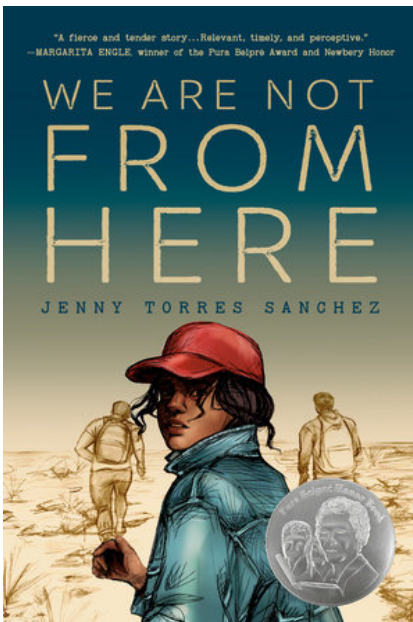
5. Know what’s going on in the world. Read an actual newspaper; read the news online; listen to the news on the radio; or watch the news on television. Look into current news or listen to a podcast about subjects that interest you: science, history, math, art, health, medicine, law, politics, sports, fashion, etc.

Keep learning as you enjoy your summer break! English II Honors

Note: Obtain your own copy of the book and bring it to class when school begins.

1. Read *We Are Not From Here* (2020) by Jenny Torres Sanchez.

2. Annotate the book, and consider the following topics as you read:



- threats—how to deal with them
- money—what it can and cannot do
- surviving and thriving—the difference
- what constitutes bravery
- the plight of immigrants

Tips for annotation:

Avoid the use of highlighters.

Underline key words or phrases and memorable sentences or passages.

Identify unfamiliar words

Write questions in the margins about something you don’t understand

Mark and comment on characters and ideas that you find intriguing

Note the use of literary devices

Make connections to other texts, your life, your world, etc.

3. Keep a journal. Each time you read a portion of the novel, note the date and time. Write a few sentences about what was revealed in the plot and what you learned about each character in that day’s reading. Turn in your journal on the first day of school.

“Reading is the sole means by which we slip, involuntarily, often helplessly, into another’s skin, another’s voice, another’s soul.” – Joyce Carol Oates

Valwood Summer Study 2022-23

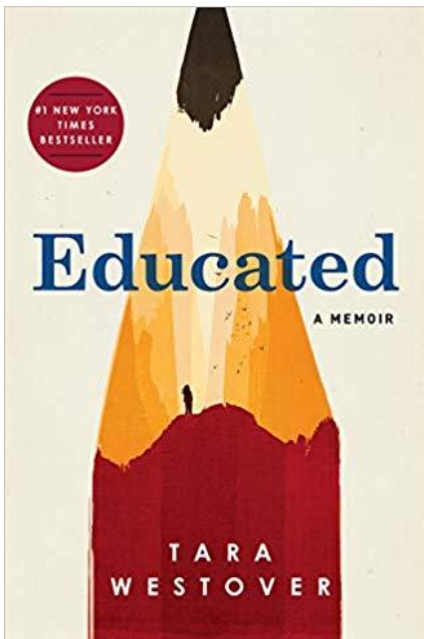
- 4. Write a 250-word reflection** about your reaction to the novel. This writing is informal. You may use first person. Your reflection should include a discussion of specific events in the novel that provoked a notable response. What did you love? What did you hate? What caught your attention? Turn in your reflection on the first day of school.
- 5. Be prepared** to write a formal, literary analysis about the novel on the second day of school. For the essay, you will discuss how Sanchez employs plot development and characterization to reveal a theme of the novel.
- 6. Know what’s going on in the world.** Read an actual newspaper; read the news online; listen to the news on the radio; or watch the news on television. Look into current news or listen to a podcast about subjects that interest you: science, history, math, art, health, medicine, law, politics, sports, fashion, etc.

Keep learning as you enjoy your summer break!

English III

Note: Obtain your own copy of the book, and bring it to class when school begins.

- 1. Read *Educated: A Memoir* (2018) by Tara Westover.**
- 2. Annotate the book and consider the following topics as you read:**



- advantages and disadvantages of community
- relationships (within families and with friends)
- what it means to be educated
- how we learn
- survival
- opportunities
- risk-taking
- mentors

Tips for annotation:

Avoid the use of highlighters.
Underline key words or phrases and memorable sentences or passages.
Identify unfamiliar words
Write questions in the margins about something you don’t understand
Mark and comment on characters and ideas that you find intriguing
Note the use of literary devices
Make connections to other texts, your life, your world, etc.

“Reading is the sole means by which we slip, involuntarily, often helplessly, into another’s skin, another’s voice, another’s soul.” – Joyce Carol Oates

Valwood Summer Study 2022-23

3. Write a 250-word reflection to turn in on the first day of school.

Include a discussion of specific events in the novel that provoked a notable response. What did you love? What did you hate? What caught your attention?

4. Be prepared to accomplish the following within the first two weeks of school:

- participate in a Socratic discussion of the book
- construct a theme statement for the book
- identify at least three pieces of textual support for the theme statement
- incorporate the textual support in a variety of ways
- document the textual evidence
- write an in-class essay, adhering to MLA style and meeting the expectations of a rubric

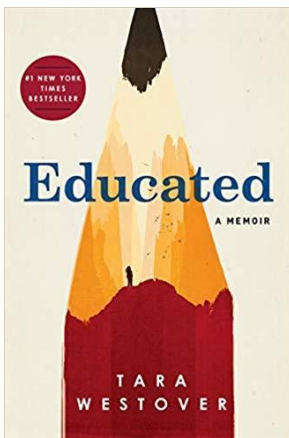
5. Know what’s going on in the world. Read an actual newspaper; read the news online; listen to the news on the radio; or watch the news on television. Look into current news or listen to a podcast about subjects that interest you: science, history, math, art, health, medicine, law, politics, sports, fashion, etc.

Keep learning as you enjoy your summer break! AP Language and Composition

Note: Obtain your own copy of the book, and bring it to class when school begins.

1. Read *Educated: A Memoir* (2018) by Tara Westover.

2. Consider the following topics as you read and annotate the book:



- advantages and disadvantages of community
- relationships (within families and with friends)
- what it means to be educated
- how we learn
- survival
- opportunities
- risk-taking
- mentors

Tips for annotation:

Underline key words or phrases and memorable sentences or passages.

Identify unfamiliar words.

Write questions in the margins about something you don’t understand.

Mark and comment on characters and ideas that you find intriguing.

“Reading is the sole means by which we slip, involuntarily, often helplessly, into another’s skin, another’s voice, another’s soul.” – Joyce Carol Oates

Valwood Summer Study 2022-23

3. Keep a journal.

Each time you read a portion of the novel, note the date and time. Write a few sentences about what was revealed in the plot and what you learned about each character in that day’s reading. Turn in your journal on the first day of school.

4. Write a 250-word reflection.

Include a discussion of specific events in the novel that provoked a notable response. What did you love? What did you hate? What caught your attention? Turn in the reflection on the first day of school.

5. Be prepared to accomplish the following within the first two weeks of school:

- identify elements of the rhetorical situation within the book.
- identify the main claim(s) of the author.
- identify the organizational patterns and methods of development within the book.
- identify, incorporate, and document textual support in a variety of ways.
- analyze stylistic choices made by the author.

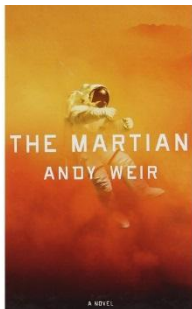
6. Know what’s going on in the world. Read an actual newspaper; read the news online; listen to the news on the radio; or watch the news on television. Look into current news or listen to a podcast about subjects that interest you: science, history, math, art, health, medicine, law, politics, sports, fashion, etc.

Keep learning as you enjoy your summer break!

English IV

Note: Obtain your own copy of the book and bring it to class when school begins.

1. Read *The Martian* (2011) by Andy Weir.
2. Annotate the book as you read, and note connections to the following topics:



Survival
Sense of humor
Problem-solving
Isolation
Guilt
Commitment
Security
Suspense

Tips for annotation:

Avoid the use of highlighters.
Underline key words or phrases and memorable sentences or passages.
Identify unfamiliar words
Write questions in the margins about something you don’t understand
Mark and comment on characters and ideas that you find intriguing
Note the use of literary devices
Make connections to other texts, your life, your world, etc.

3. As you read, consider these questions, and be prepared to discuss them in class.

“Reading is the sole means by which we slip, involuntarily, often helplessly, into another’s skin, another’s voice, another’s soul.” – Joyce Carol Oates

Valwood Summer Study 2022-23

- A survival story has to resonate on a universal level to be effective, whether it's set on a desert island or another planet. In any setting, life includes challenges. How important are those challenges in keeping life vital?
- Who knew potatoes, duct tape, and '70s reruns were the key to space survival? How do each of these items represent aspects of Mark's character that help him survive?
- What makes us root for a character to live in a survival story? In what ways do you identify with Mark? How does the author get you to care about him?

4. Watch the movie.

5. Read each of these articles about the science related to the book/movie.

[Andy Weir - The Martian: How Science Drove the Plot](#)

[Author Of 'The Martian' Talks About The Science Behind The Book](#)

[Andy Weir and his book 'The Martian' may have saved NASA and the entire space program](#)

6. Know what’s going on in the world. Read an actual newspaper; read the news online; listen to the news on the radio; or watch the news on television. Look into current news in fields that interest you: science, history, math, economics, art, health, medicine, law, politics, sports, fashion, etc.

Keep learning as you enjoy your summer break!

AP Literature and Composition

“Reading is the sole means by which we slip, involuntarily, often helplessly, into another’s skin, another’s voice, another’s soul.” – Joyce Carol Oates

Valwood Summer Study 2022-23

Note: Obtain your own copy of the book and bring it to class when school begins.

1. Read *Behold the Dreamers* (2016) by Imbolo Mbue

2. Annotate the book as you read.

Mark significant passages with post-its (if it’s borrowed) or with margin notes (if you own it).

3. Keep a journal.

Each time you read a portion of the novel, note the date and time. Write a few sentences about what was revealed in the plot and what you learned about each character in that day’s reading. Turn in your journal on the first day of school.

4. Write a 250-word reflection.

Include a discussion of specific events in the novel that provoked a notable response. What did you love? What did you hate? What caught your attention? Turn in your reflection on the first day of school.

5. When school begins, be prepared to

- cite specific lines to support what you say or write about the book.
- analyze how Mbue conveys the family’s complex responses to their quandary.
- learn how the author uses literary elements and techniques for a specific purpose. (Google “literary elements and techniques” if you need more information.)
- consider the meaning of the work as a whole.

6. Read another book of literary merit.

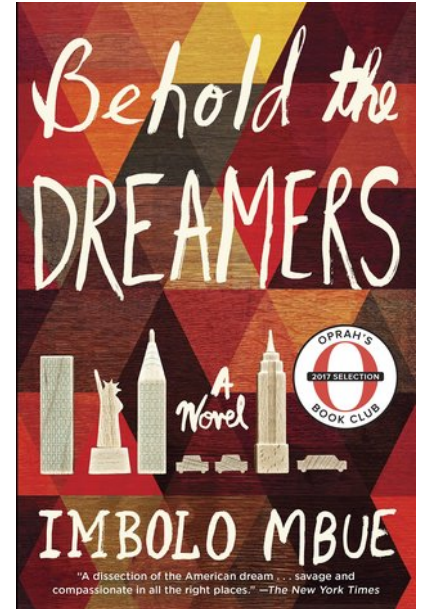
I recommend reading *Where the Crawdads Sing* by Delia Owens and going to see the movie to be released on July 15, 2022. If you want more recommendations, contact dray@valwood.org.

7. Listen to at least one short episode of *Poetry Unbound*, a readily available podcast.

(One of my favorites is “Praise the Rain.”) Pádraig Ó Tuama can show you how to analyze poetry!

8. Know what’s going on in the world.

Read an actual newspaper; read the news online; listen to the news on the radio; or watch the news on television. Look into current news in fields that interest you: science, history, math, economics, art, health, medicine, law, politics, sports, fashion, etc.



Keep learning as you enjoy your summer break!