

“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

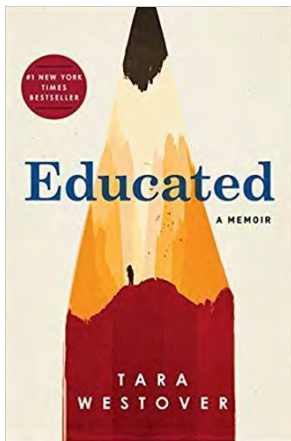
Valwood Summer Study 2023-24

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

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.

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. Connect one aspect of the novel to a current event:

Find a current newspaper or online news magazine article that contains information related to one of the topics covered in the book. The article must be a news article, not an opinion piece. Write a 150-word connection journal entry that explains the real world nonfiction connection to the events in the memoir *Educated*. Read an actual newspaper; read the news online; listen to the news on the radio; or watch the news on television!

Keep learning as you enjoy your summer break!