

AP BIOLOGY SUMMER READING 2019

Introduction

Welcome to AP Biology! The purpose of this activity is to provide you foundational knowledge for our first unit, Evolution, and to help you get a head start on one of your nonfiction reading assignments. Many students can be overwhelmed by the rigor of this course, but the more you stay organized and ahead, the more successful you will be. As you prepare for our year, I highly encourage you to take the following steps over the summer so that you are ready to go on the first day of school. I will be available during the summer via email (see below) so feel free to contact me if you have any questions!

- Follow me on Twitter (@BioBrownCCHS) for updates, tips, and other info
- Buy an AP Exam Preparation Guide (*not required but strongly encouraged*) – this will help you throughout the year. Students often wait until the end of the year and buy one before the AP Exam and wish they had purchased sooner!
- Visit the AP Biology Course website, <https://apstudent.collegeboard.org/apcourse/ap-biology> and be sure to review the course overview and course description

PART 1 – AP Biology “Getting to Know You” survey

I am excited to have you in class next year! Please complete a short survey at the following link:

<https://tinyurl.com/yxd2enf6>

PART 2 – Independent Reading Assignment

AP Biology is a college level course which requires students to quite a bit of independent reading outside of class. To get a head start, I encourage you to read an independent non-fiction book over the summer and keep a reflection journal as you go. All students will be reading TWO non-fiction books during the course of the year – so summer break is a great time to get a head start on your reading. Please use a small spiral notebook dedicated as your independent reading reflection journal and follow the reflection guide below in a spiral notebook. One of the short answer essays for our first exam will be from this reading. You do not need to purchase these books unless you want to. You can borrow from the library or friend. But don't wait till the last minute!! Please contact me if you are having trouble!

You can choose from the following list:

- **Title:** Survival of the Sickest **Author:** Sharon Moalem with Jonathan Prince **ISBN-10:** 0060889667
 - *I have a copy of this book available as a PDF – please email me at browns@pwcs.edu if you would like access**
- **Title:** The Immortal Life of Henrietta Lacks **Author:** Rebecca Skloot **ISBN-10:** 1400052173

Reflections should be made in a one-subject spiral notebook. On page two is an example of what I would like for you to record. Before you begin your entries, please create a title page for the independent reading book that includes the Book Title & Author.

Your entries will follow your self-created title page. The minimum number of reflection entries for each chapter is two. **Please put one entry per page. You may use both the left & right sides of the notebook to record your entries.** Even though some of the reflections are personal/opinion based & there isn't technically a right or wrong answer, you will only get out of the reading what you put in, so please take this assignment seriously & do your best with every entry.

Here is what I would expect to be able to see in your responses:

Entry # _____ Chapter/Pages Read for Entry: _____

Passage Selected:

At the top of the entry should be a passage or multiple parts of a passage that you copied from this section of the novel/work. Please be sure to include the page #'s that you found the passage you selected so I can reference it if needed.

Why you selected the passage:

It must be because of Option A, B or C shown below. (It can be a combination of the letters too.) Please try to mix it up amongst your entries so you learn to find all three types of connections. Think to yourself, "With this passage, I can make a _____":

- A. Text to Text Connection
- B. Text to World Connection
- C. Text to Self Connection

Explanation of the text connection:

Be thorough here. Remember as I read these I need to be able to "get inside your head" so don't make any assumptions. Write as though the person reading it is new to the material as well & "teach" them what you have learned so far. A text to text connection should include direct examples of overlap from the novel & material from the textbook/notes. A text to world connection is applying a concept in the notes/book & "extending" the material beyond the examples provided in either book. A text to self connection refers to a personal connection between what is in the notes/text/novel & something that has happened in your life.

Reflection:

Here's what the connection helps me understand AND/OR wonder about the text/novel/world/etc.

Grading:

This assignment will be graded by completion and a random reading of a minimum of 5 Explanation and Reflection entries.