

May 2023

Dear Parents/Guardians and Students:

Welcome to Lebanon High School and Pre-AP English 9! The LHS English Department requires summer reading for all college-level students. One goal of our program is for students to read a variety of literary genres throughout the year. This summer, Pre-AP 9 students will read a memoir OR an autobiography. Memoirs focus on a specific time or event in an author's life, while autobiographies tackle the entire scope of an author's life.

Here are some tips for making a selection (Amazon Books and Goodreads are great sites to start a search):

- Read a summary
- Read a sample chapter
- Research reader reviews
- Ask family and friends for recommendations
- Explore the list of attached titles I've provided

The memoir OR autobiography should be:

- At least 200 pages in length
- Appropriate for a high school reading level
- Something the student has not read

Included is a list of *suggested* titles, but students are not limited to these. The selections on the list are for mature reading audiences (high school, college, and adult); these texts may contain explicit language, violence, and/or sexual situations. Parents/guardians are strongly encouraged to be involved in the selection and reading process. These recommendations come from the Indiana Department of Education, College Board, and LHS teachers and students.

Students are responsible for obtaining a copy of their selection. Selections can be in print or digital form. Students can rent from the library, purchase from an online bookstore, or borrow from a family member or friend. Students may also listen to an audiobook if that is their preference.

It is imperative that students complete their reading *before* the first day of class. During the first weeks of the semester, students will need access to the text in order to complete a variety of assignments (visual, written, and discussion). I am not assigning students to take structured notes, but it would be helpful for them to keep a list of characters with descriptions, details about setting, and summaries of important plot points.

Students, if you have any questions throughout the summer, email me at [coddingtona@leb.k12.in.us](mailto:coddingtona@leb.k12.in.us). I expect all written communication to be professional in tone and format. I will check my email weekly, so students may not receive an immediate response.

I hope everyone has an enjoyable, relaxing summer, and I look forward to working with you all this year!

Sincerely,

Mrs. Coddington  
[coddingtona@leb.k12.in.us](mailto:coddingtona@leb.k12.in.us)

## Pre-AP English 9 | Summer Reading Selection Suggestions

\*Recommendations from the Indiana Department of Education, College Board, and LHS teachers & students\*

*I Know Why the Caged Bird Sings* by Maya Angelou

*Growing Up* by Russell Baker

*A Long Way Gone: Memoirs of a Boy Soldier* by Ismael Beah

*The Americanization of Edward Bok* by Edward Bok

*The Childhood Story of Christy Brown (My Left Foot)* by Christy Brown

*The Boys in the Boat* by Daniel James Brown

*John Wilkes Booth: A Sister's Memoir* by Asia Booth Clarke

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

*Bossy Pants* by Tina Fey

*Barrio Boy* by Ernesto Galarza

*Thinking in Pictures* by Temple Grandin

*Between Two Kingdoms* by Suleika Jaouad

*The Story of my Life* by Helen Keller

*Woman Warrior* by Maxine Hong Kingston

*Greenlights* by Matthew McConaughey

*Blue Highways: A Journey into America* by William Least Heat-Moon

*The Other Wes Moore: One Name, Two Fates* by Wes Moore

*Born a Crime* by Trevor Noah

*Zen and the Art of Motorcycle Maintenance* by Robert M. Pirsig

*Still Me* by Christopher Reeve

*Travels with Charley* by John Steinbeck

*Hillbilly Elegy: A Memoir of a Family and Culture in Crisis* by J.D. Vance

*One Writer's Beginnings* by Eudora Welty

*Educated* by Tara Westover

*Night* by Elie Wisel

*Black Boy* by Richard Wright

*I am Malala: The Girl Who Stood Up for Education and Was Shot by the Taliban* by Malala Yousafzai