

Welcome to AP English Language and Composition!

We want to welcome you to AP Language! It is such a great class; you're in for a real treat! Our goal is to make you a savvy reader and writer. Working toward that goal is going to be a lot of fun, and with a positive attitude and strong work ethic, we know you will have a successful year in AP English Language. Your choice to take AP Lang demonstrates that you are on the road to a successful college career. With that in mind we want to help you learn "to write effectively, argue persuasively, solve problems creatively, and adapt and learn independently" (Falk qtd. in Turkle 247). If you have any questions about the assignment or the class, please email Beth.Morgan@cobbk12.org or Kirstene.Lohlein@cobbk12.org. We'll see you soon -

The Readings:

ONE book:

There There by Tommy Orange (304 ppg) **OR** ***The Devil in the White City*** by Erik Larson (447 ppg)

ONE essay:

"Superman and Me" by Sherman Alexie <https://tinyurl.com/yp9xb8je>

A writing task will accompany "Superman and Me" when you return to school in August, so please familiarize yourself with it.

******* Please note that we will spend the first two to three weeks working with *There There* in a variety of ways ranging from in-class discussions, group presentations and maybe even in-class writes, so PLEASE read attentively – you'll want to pay special attention to the cast of characters as the book features shifting narrators throughout.**

Assignment for *There There*:

Favorite Quotes:

While you are reading find at least one, and perhaps two or three quotes that you especially like in each chapter – make note of what struck you about them (pay special attention to Orange's **symbols, themes, motifs, repeating ideas**) – these will come in handy for your group presentation! You can keep track of these in your book, but you'll need to be able to tell us the chapter and page numbers for each!

Favorite Characters:

While you are reading make some judgements about which characters you like the best – it might be helpful to jot down a sentence or two of description for all the folks you meet, but when you've met all the characters in the novel, decide who you like the best – why is this person your favorite?

Assignment for *The Devil in the White City*:

Keep track of the people on this list – you may do this in whatever format you would like, but it will behoove you to know who they are and how they fit into the story of *The White City*. Certainly, in a book of non-fiction everyone who is introduced plays a role of at least some importance, but these are the people we want to make sure you do not forget. Further, these notes will prove to be invaluable to you in the first weeks of AP Lang as you'll be working independently while the class works with ***There There***.

Listed in order of appearance (or at least close to it)

Daniel Hudson Burnham

Francis "Frank" Millet

John Wellborn Root

Louis Sullivan

H. H. Holmes / Herman Webster Mudgett

Clara Lovering

Fredrick Law Olmsted

Henry "Harry" Sargent Codman

Patrick Eugene Predergast

Carter Henry Harrison

Benjamin Pitezel

Carrie Canning

Richard Hunt

The Conner family (Ned, Julia, Pearl, Gertrude)

Sophia Hayden

Sol Bloom

Emeline Cigrand

George Washington Gale Ferris

Detective Frank Geyer

It would not hurt to notice some of the “fair firsts” either – we think you’ll be surprised by all the things you probably take for granted that were introduced at the Chicago World’s Fair! 😊