

AP ENGLISH 11

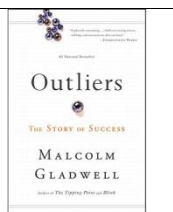
Summer Reading 2020

I am beyond excited that you are a JUNIOR in my AP English class! These books are great and I am thrilled for you to read them! Students in an AP English Language and Composition course should read actively, carefully and deliberately. In order to practice AP exam skills in preparation for the AP Language and Composition exam, all students must complete the following assignments this summer. AP English 11 students must turn in both assignments via email no later than 8 am on the first day of school (you can always send your assignments before the due date). I suggest writing the chapter and then write your paragraph under it to stay organized. There is no minimum or maximum requirement for answer length because some students are more concise than others, just make sure that you write enough to answer the question in its entirety. See you all in August!

-Mrs. Luis

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Selection #1: Read *Outliers* by Malcolm Gladwell
ISBN: 0316017930



Chapter One "The Matthew Effect"

1. Explain the author's viewpoint regarding "The Story of Success". Are personal qualities the sole reason one becomes an outlier? Explain your answer providing support from the text.
2. What is the consequence of "prematurely writing people off as failures"?

Chapter Two "The 10,000-Hour Rule"

3. Explain the 10,000-Hour Rule.
4. Consider the following: "Practice isn't the thing you do once you're good. It's the thing you do that makes you good." Explain how this philosophy was at work for Bill Joy, The Beatles, and Bill Gates.

Chapter Three "The Trouble with Geniuses, Part 1"

5. Describe the difference between 'divergence testing' and 'convergence testing'. Is one more significant than the other?
6. Gladwell states that communities and companies in American society "are convinced that those at the very top of the IQ scale have the greatest potential." After reading the chapter, explain why you either agree or disagree with this statement.

Chapter Four "The Trouble with Geniuses, Part 2"

7. Compare and contrast Langan and Oppenheimer.
8. What is the difference between "concerted cultivation" and "accomplishment of natural growth"?

Chapter Five "The Three Lessons of Joe Flom"

9. Explain Gladwell's statement as it relates to Joe Flom: "Buried in that setback was a golden opportunity."
10. Consider the following quote: "Hard work is a prison sentence only if it does not have meaning." Explain how this quote relates to the chapter.

Chapter Six "Harlan, Kentucky"

11. Describe the "culture of honor" that exists in the Appalachian Mountains.
12. What are the "cultural legacies" as described in this chapter? Why are they significant to understand when dealing with people?

Chapter Seven "The Ethnic Theory of Plane Crashes"

13. Describe the significance of the "willingness to change" as it relates to Korean Air.
14. What is Gladwell explaining about the importance of communication?

Chapter Eight "Rice Paddies and Math Tests"

15. After reading this section of the book, have your opinions changed about math classes and math ability? Explain why or why not.
16. Describe the connection between the "10,000-Hour Rule" and the wet-rice farmers in Asia.

Chapter Nine "Marita's Bargain"

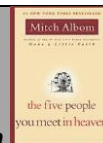
17. Describe the significance of summer vacation as it relates to different groups of students. Why is this significant?
18. Gladwell states "success follows a predictable course." How does this quote apply to Marita? How does this apply to you?

Epilogue "A Jamaican Story"

19. What does Gladwell mean when he states, "The outlier in the end is not an outlier at all."
20. Explain what Gladwell means when he states, "That is the story of my mother's path to success – and it isn't true."

Selection #2: Read *The Five People You Meet In Heaven* by Mitch Albom

ISBN: 1401308589



1. List three themes in the story and discuss how the author maintains them throughout the novel.
2. Describe each person Eddie meets in heaven, how they were relevant to his life on earth, and describe what they teach Eddie.
3. Given the quote, "No story sits by itself. Sometimes stories meet at corners and sometimes they cover one another completely, like stones beneath a river" (10), describe what message, you feel, Albom is trying to convey and how its relevance to the novel.
4. Discuss Eddie's relationship with his father throughout his life as well as in heaven. How has Eddie's father influenced Eddie's life?

5. Explain why Marguerite picked a place in heaven where there were only weddings. Why was Eddie angry with her for dying so young? What lesson does she teach Eddie? What kind of love did Eddie and Marguerite share? Consider those points and discuss her relationship with Eddie and the influence she shed on his life.

6. How does Eddie respond when Tala asks him why he is so sad? What was his initial reaction? Do you think this benefited Eddie? Also not whether or not you think his response was out of character.

7. What is the importance/significance to the flashbacks of Eddie's previous birthdays? What did you learn about Eddie? How did this help in understanding the novel?

8. What is the predominant theme in the novel? How does the malfunction of Freddy's Free Fall relate to this theme?

9. How did Eddie's last act on earth relate to the different themes in the novel?

10. Discuss Tala's character. Who is she and what was her significance in Eddie's life?

11. Considering the Captain's lesson of sacrifice, explain how Eddie exemplified this during his last act on earth. What does this act symbolize?