

Summer Reading Assignment

English 2 – Westside High School (2019-2020)

This summer's media will be crowded with extraordinary stories of super heroes, galaxy-flying scoundrels, prehistoric beasts and monsters of legend. However, this assignment aims to remind you that inspiration can be found anywhere, especially in the stories of extraordinary, *real*, people. So, first, you are to choose a *memoir* (pronounced "MEM-war") — an autobiographical story in which the author describes events from his or her life and the lessons he or she learned from them. Memoir is a fascinating genre, because *anyone* can write a memoir: athletes, actors, musicians, artists, dancers, activists, scientists, online content creators (i.e. YouTubers), and many more. Below, we've provided a list of popular and powerful memoirs, but feel free to choose any memoir that interests you. During and/or after your reading, complete the assignment below.

Figurative Language Booklet: Create a booklet that outlines your top ten favorite lines from the book that contain figurative language (i.e. simile, metaphor, personification, imagery, hyperbole, allusion, etc.).

Each page will feature a new line, image, and a brief explanation of what it means. Each page must contain:

- The line from the text that contains figurative language
- Visual picture that illustrates the figurative element: hand-drawn (use color!), cut from a magazine, or found electronically
- Identification (label it!) of the literary device used (i.e. personification, imagery, metaphor, simile, etc.)
- 2-4 sentence explanation of the **effect** this language choice has on the reader (what does it **do** for us?)

Some Memoir Suggestions

Becoming – Michelle Obama

Born a Crime – Trevor Noah

Persepolis – Marjane Satrapi

Night – Elie Wiesel

You're Never Weird on the Internet – Felicia Day

When They Call You a Terrorist: A Black Lives Matter Memoir – Patrisse Khan-Cullors and Asha Bandele

Single State of Mind – Andi Dorfman

A Long Way Gone: Memoirs of a Boy Soldier – Ishmael Beah

Yes Please – Amy Poehler

Bossypants – Tina Fey

A Place to Stand – Jimmy Santiago Baca

Why Soccer Matters – Pelé and Brian Winter

My Life – Magic Johnson

Silent Gesture – Tommie Smith and David Steele

On the Line – Serena Williams and Daniel Paisner

Breaking the Surface – Greg Louganis and Eric Marcus

Jesse – Jesse Owens and Paul Neimark

Off Balance – Dominique Moceanu and Teri Williams

In the Water They Can't See You Cry – Amanda Beard and Rebecca Paley