

# Chattahoochee High School Summer Reading

## AP English Language & Composition (2022-2023)

---

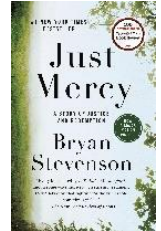
Welcome to AP English Language and Composition! The following book and podcast episode are your summer reading assignments. We enjoyed them and believe that they will be an excellent way to start our writing and discussion in the fall. The point of the assignment is to analyze and evaluate how an argument is expressed and developed.



### READ

***Just Mercy: A Story of Justice and Redemption* by Brian Stevenson (non-fiction)**  
[Make sure it is NOT the 'young adult' version]

You should purchase your own copy of the summer reading book selection so that you can underline, highlight, and annotate in the margins. If you need to check the book out from a library, use sticky notes to annotate. Readers who annotate thoroughly typically have a deeper understanding and appreciation of the work and thus are more able to contribute to fruitful discussion. These annotations will also help you on the in-class assessments over the summer reading that will we do during the first week of class.



### LISTEN

***Serial*, Season 3, Episode 2 "You've Got Some Gauls"** (a pun on the name of the judge discussed in the episode). You can find this wherever you listen to podcasts or access the episode with transcript at <https://serialpodcast.org/season-three/2/youve-got-some-gauls>



Specifically, you should take notes as follows:

- **For the book:** Studying a nonfiction book gives you the opportunity explore the choices the author uses to advance an argument. As you read, pay attention to and make note of these choices. It might be helpful to consider how the author structures the story, what modes of development are used (narration, description, compare and contrast, cause and effect, division, etc.) what anecdotes he uses, his overall tone, what details he provides about key people, etc.
- **As you listen to the podcast,** pay special attention to the use of audio elements—what sounds are selected, how they are presented, what is the effect? The central question of the assignment is this: how does the producer/host of the podcast utilize the tools at her disposal to advance an argument?
- **For both:** Consider the overall message (argument).
  - What point(s) do you believe the author/speaker is trying to make with this text (yes, a podcast is a text)?
  - As you read/listen, evaluate the text's main point(s), paying particularly close attention to how the argument is being developed and supported.
  - Make note of thematic connections you make between the two works

You will have two assessments over the reading assignment the first week of school: a test and an in-class essay.

**Special note:** If you plan to just watch the movie adaptation of the book, perhaps you should rethink your decision to take AP Lang next year.

If you have any questions about the summer reading assignment, you can contact us via email:

Mrs. Smith at [smithk4@fultonschools.org](mailto:smithk4@fultonschools.org)

Mr. White at [whitedp@fultonschools.org](mailto:whitedp@fultonschools.org)