

# AP English Language & Composition

## Summer Reading 2017

### Directions

- Complete EHS Summer Reading—One Pager.
- Choose one of the following memoirs to read:
  - *This Boy's Life* by Tobias Wolff
  - *The Glass Castle* by Jeanette Walls
- Keep marginal annotations while reading (you can always use post-its for this).
  - Look for recurring images, ideas, motifs, and themes
  - Highlight/mark important passages for the writing of your summer essay
- Write an argument essay specific to your book selections (see prompts). Use the rubric on the back of this page as a guide.

### The Glass Castle

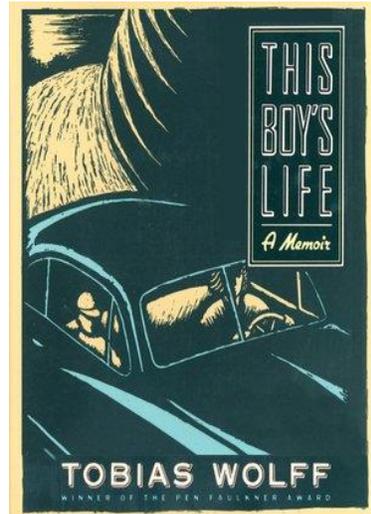
"...he said it was interesting. he used the word 'textured'. He said 'smooth' is boring but 'textured' was interesting, and the scar meant I was stronger than whatever had tried to hurt me."

—Jeanette Walls

### This Boy's Life

*"When we are green, still half-created, we believe that our dreams are rights...and that falling and dying are for quitters. We live on the innocent and monstrous assurance that we...have a special arrangement whereby we will be allowed to stay green forever..."*

~ Tobias Wolff



### If you read *This Boy's Life*

In *This Boy's Life* there is dishonesty existing between Jack's true identity—his actions and behaviors—and who it is that he imagines or purports himself to be. Like many adolescents, his identity is still in formation. However, the discrepancy between one's true identity and one's publicly perceived identity is not specific to adolescents alone. In a well written 1000 word minimum essay, explore the relationship between one's true identity and one's perceived identity. Support your ideas by citing appropriate evidence from the text as well as personal experience and your study of literature, history, philosophy, psychology, science, current events, etc.

THE #1 NEW YORK TIMES BESTSELLER

### THE GLASS CASTLE



JEANNETTE  
WALLS

AUTHOR OF HALF BROKE HORSES  
AND THE SILVER STAR

"Walls has joined the company of writers such as Mary Karr  
and Frank McCourt who have been able to  
transform their sad memories into fine art." —People

A MEMOIR

### If you read *The Glass Castle*

We often hear clichés like "What doesn't kill you makes you stronger." Trite, of course, but clichés exist for a reason; sometimes clichés stem from truths. In Walls' narration of her devastating childhood, a time which stands out in stark contrast to her successful adulthood, it seems this old adage is downright prophetic. In a well written 1000 word minimum essay, defend, challenge, or qualify the validity of this philosophy. Support your argument citing appropriate evidence from the text as well as personal experience, your study of literature, history, philosophy, psychology, science, current events, etc.

## Summer Essay Rubric

Criteria	Met 7-9	Developing 4-6	Not Met 1-3
<p><b><u>ADDRESSES PROMPT:</u></b>  <i>The essay responds to and addresses the task assigned by the prompt. It does not substitute the assignment given with a simpler task.</i></p>			
<p><b><u>LOGIC &amp; IDEAS:</u></b>  <i>The essay's argument is coherent and logically sound. Ideas are fully developed and supported.</i></p>			
<p><b><u>WRITING CONTROL:</u></b>  <i>The essay demonstrates a mature prose style, controlling a wide range of the elements of writing. Conventional errors are absent and do not distract from the prose.</i></p>			
<p><b><u>EVIDENCE QUALITY:</u></b>  <i>The essay references not only The Glass Castle/This Boy's Life, it also relies on evidence that is appropriate and convincing to support its argument.</i></p>			
<p><b><u>FORMATTING/CITATIONS:</u></b>  <i>Essays follow the common expectations of MLA formatting and source citation. Essay is written in Times New Roman, 12 pt. font, double spaced, 1" margins.</i></p>			
<p><b>AVERAGE SCORE</b></p>	<p>_____ /9</p>		

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### Additional Info

**Suggested memoirs for East High School's Summer Read (w/One Pager assignment):**

- Angela's Ashes* Frank McCourt
- The Liars' Club* Mary Karr
- An American Childhood* Annie Dillard
- Sister Salty, Sister Sweet* Shannon & Natalie Kring
- Love in the Driest Season* Neely Tucker
- A Long Way Gone* Ishmael Beah
- A Girl Named Zippy* Haven Kimmel
- JesusLand* Julia Scheeres
- Jarhead* Anthony Swafford
- The Night of the Gun* David Carr
- Encyclopedia of an Ordinary Life* Amy Krouse Rosenthal
- Battle Hymn of the Tiger Mother* Amy Chua
- How to be Black* Baratunde Thurston
- The Girl's Guide to Homelessness* Brianna Karp
- Rat Girl* Kristin Hersh
- Waiting to be Heard* Amanda Knox
- Relish* Lucy Knisley
- The Spark* Kristine Barnett
- Attempting Normal* Marc Moran
- Shakespeare Saved My Life* Laura Bates

*i can barely take care of myself* Jen Kirkman  
*Too Cool for School* Elizabeth Collins

Assignments will appear on your first term grade and will make up 10% of your grade for the term.

YOU CAN FIND MS. IPSON  
IN ROOM D208  
OR CONTACT HER AT  
**brooke.ipson@slcschools.org**

If you transfer out of AP into LA II Honors you **WILL** be held accountable for that reading assignment!

Additional information and support available at  
**<http://easthighaplang.weebly.com>**

