

Name:

Teacher:

**Aldine ISD**  
**Summer Reading Response Log**

High School English I Pre-AP (Grade 9)  
(entering English I)



Students entering English I Pre-AP must complete a summer reading assignment that includes:

1. *Animal Farm* by George Orwell (which can be found here: <https://bit.ly/1Ls0190>)
2. *Harrison Bergeron* by Kurt Vonnegut (which can be found here: <https://bit.ly/1t8EFFh>)
3. A nonfiction book from the following list\*\* (summaries of each book on page 3):
  - *I am Malala* by Malala Yousafzai
  - *Enrique's Journey* by Sonia Nazario
  - *We are Americans* by William Perez
  - *We Beat the Streets* by George Jenkins, Hunt, Davis, and Draper
  - *Hidden Figures* by Margot Lee Shetterly
  - *The Freedom Writers Diary* by Erin Gruwell

**\*\*Some books may contain adult language and situations.**

**For each assignment, be sure to:**

- **WRITE IN COMPLETE SENTENCES**
- **Avoid slang and abbreviations**

**For assignments 1 and 2, write an essay between 250-300 words replying to the prompt about each story.**

- If typed, it must be Times New Roman, 12 point font, double spaced.
- If handwritten, you must count your words and write that number at the top of the first page.

**1. Prompt for *Animal Farm*:**

Explain how sometimes the best intentions have negative outcomes.

Be sure to include specific examples from the text to prove your thoughts about the prompt.

**2. Prompt for “Harrison Bergeron”:**

Writers often highlight the values of a culture or society by using characters that are treated poorly or excluded from that society. Choose a character from Kurt Vonnegut’s short story “Harrison Bergeron” and show:

- How the way that character is treated by the surrounding society.
- What that treatment shows about the society’s beliefs and values.

**3. Assignment for nonfiction book from the list:**

Create a poster, video, or Google slide presentation which should include:

- Visual image that represents the book
- Main points/ summary
- Author information
- Favorite section with a quote/ page number
- One big “take-away”—what have you learned by reading this book (Information on posters can be typed or neatly handwritten)

## Non-Fiction Book Summaries

### ***I am Malala* by Malala Yousafzai**

When the Taliban took control of the Swat Valley in Pakistan, Malala Yousafzai refused to be silenced and fought for her right to an education. She was fifteen, she was shot in the head while riding the bus home from school, and few expected her to survive. Instead, her miraculous recovery has taken her on an extraordinary journey from a remote valley in northern Pakistan to the halls of the United Nations in New York. At sixteen, she has become a global symbol of peaceful protest and the youngest-ever Nobel Peace Prize laureate.

### ***Enrique's Journey* by Sonia Nazario**

When Enrique realizes that the only way he will ever see his mother again is to come to the United States, he sets on a dangerous journey from his home country of Honduras to find her. Sonia Nazario's journalistic masterpiece follows Enrique across four countries, and brings the reader to a deeper understanding of the realities of migration.

### ***We are Americans: Undocumented Students Pursuing the American Dream* by William Perez**

"This fascinating look at the next generation of undocumented immigrants unpacks the complexities of the debate and puts unforgettable human faces to its subjects. Perez, a developmental psychologist and professor in Southern California, plumbs the stories of students living with the constant threat of deportation for an answer to the question, 'What does it mean to be an American?'"--Starred Web Pick of the Week, Publishers Weekly

### ***We Beat the Streets* by George Jenkins, Hunt, Davis, and Draper**

*We Beat the Streets* is the remarkable true story of three kids from bad neighborhoods that were full of drugs, gangs, violence, and crime. They banded together to overcome these disadvantages to become doctors. They made a pact to do well in school, get good grades, go to college, and become successful doctors. They did this by always being there for one another and supporting each other whenever they needed it the most. Without the support of one another, they each would probably not have accomplished their dreams and most likely would have just become another nameless victim of the streets where each of them grew up.

### ***Hidden Figures* by Margot Lee Shetterly**

Before Neil Armstrong walked on the moon, a group of dedicated female mathematicians known as "human computers" used pencils, slide rules, and adding machines to calculate the numbers that would launch rockets, and astronauts, into space. Even as Virginia's Jim Crow laws required them to be segregated from their white counterparts, the women of Langley's all-black "West Computing" group helped America achieve one of the things it desired most: a decisive victory over the Soviet Union in the Cold War, and complete domination of the heavens.

### ***The Freedom Writers Diary* by Erin Gruwell**

As an idealistic twenty-three-year-old English teacher at Wilson High School in Long beach, California, Erin Gruwell confronted a room of "unteachable, at-risk" students. With powerful entries from the students' own diaries and a narrative text by Erin Gruwell, *The Freedom Writers Diary* is an uplifting, unforgettable example of how hard work, courage, and the spirit of determination changed the lives of a teacher and her students.

