

Rising Seniors (class of 2019)

Dear Seniors,
Congratulations! You've made it through your first year of the International Baccalaureate programme at LHS. Take a minute to celebrate your accomplishments and revel in the fact that, not only are you halfway done with the programme, you've finally reached your senior year of high school. What a tremendous achievement! Well done!

In order to prepare for the next 2 parts of your English A: Literature HL course, you are going to read the following two novels:

1. *Between the World and Me* by Ta-Nehisi Coates
2. *The Glass Castle* by Jeannette Walls

Both of these novels are going to give you a different perspective of life in this country. There is 1 assignment for each book.

Between the World and Me

For this text, you are going to write a *short* essay that **explores the title of the book**. Feel free to focus on one interpretation that is well developed or explain how he addresses this concept continually throughout his book.

Requirements:

1. MLA format
2. No outside research
3. 2 full pages plus a works cited page
4. Minimum of 5 quotations used as support

The Glass Castle

This novel will be used to develop an essay at the beginning of the year. In order to help prepare for this essay, you need to keep notes in the form of a reading journal as you read the story.

The entries in your journal should pertain to the American experience. Ideas to think about: independence, optimism, self-made man, opportunity, and the pursuit of the American Dream.

Other than this focus, you have a lot of freedom with this journal. You can write down quotes, summaries, reactions, sketches, or any other type of response you want. The minimum length for this assignment is 15 entries. I am expecting thoughtful, meaningful writing. This journal will serve as a basis for our first writing assignment in the fall.

If you have any questions over the summer, feel free to e-mail me at msmall@lexington1.net. See you in August!

Sincerely,

Mrs. Small

