

**HONORS U.S. HISTORY**  
**MR. WAGENBERG**

**OUTSIDE READING**

The Outside Reading requirement is that you read a book about *American* history or society - past, present or future.

Four non-fiction books are required for outside reading, one each quarter. The books may not be on *any* BMHS (or CGS or IB) reading list and must be grade appropriate (for example, they should not appear on any middle school reading list). Some guidelines for an acceptable book:

Your book should be

- At least 250 pages long (in almost all cases)
- Deal with America or Americans
- Not be an anthology or collection of shorter works.

All books must be submitted for approval, and your written response must be on the book that was approved. I reserve the right to reject any book - for example, In Cold Blood, or Silent Night. will not be accepted. If the book is not approved, you may resubmit as many times as necessary; once a book is approved full credit will be considered earned provided the first submission was on time.

Due Dates:

Book sign-up will be done online by completing a Google form posted on Google Classroom  
Completed report due date will also be posted on Google Classroom

To receive full credit for this assignment, your submission must satisfy all of the following requirements, as detailed below. ***Be sure to follow the instructions.*** The rubric is attached.

**THIS REPORT MUST BE SUBMITTED TO TURNITIN.COM!!!!**

1) For all genres, make a cover page with:

Your name  
Date  
Class Period  
Type of book  
Title  
Author  
Number of pages  
Number of chapters

**NO ART WORK!**

2) Inside:

- Write a *brief* general summary; no more than half a page is necessary.

(OVER)

3) QUESTIONS: Answer the questions in the order they are asked. Write the question and then answer it.

Questions for Non-fiction other than Biography or Autobiography

- What is the subject of the book?
- How is the book organized?
- Discuss (do not just list) three things you learned from this book.
- What is the author's thesis? Do you agree? Why/Why not?
- Would you recommend this book to others interested in the subject? Why?
- Did you like the way the book was written? Why?
- Are there specific places mentioned in the book for a purpose? Why?
- Would the material be helpful to most students? Why?

Questions for Biography or Autobiography

- What would you say was the theme of the book? Give examples.
- Why was the book written?
- Was the writing style interesting? Give examples.
- Why did you want to read about this person?
- Would you recommend this book to a classmate? Why or why not?
- Does the book cover the complete life of the subject? Would you like to learn more about this person?
- What was this person's greatest achievement and greatest failure?
- What is the author's view of the person? Do you agree? Why/Why not?
- You are a talk show host and have arranged for an interview with this person  
Make up five interview questions you would want to ask the them. Then answer the questions as you would expect the person to.

**OUTSIDE READING REPORT**

Objectives	Possible Score					Earned Points
<b>Report properly executed</b>	<b>1 point</b> Directions not followed	<b>2 points</b> Directions somewhat followed - errors in form and format	<b>3 points</b> Directions generally followed - errors in form and/or format	<b>4 points</b> Most directions followed - minor errors in form and/or format	<b>5 points</b> All directions followed - form and format correct	
<b>Punctuality</b>	<b>1 point</b> More than 4 days late	<b>2 points</b> 2- 4 days late	<b>3 points</b> 2 days late	<b>4 points</b> 1 day late	<b>5 points</b> On time	
<b>Mechanics of Language</b>	<b>1 point</b> Errors in grammar and/or spelling interfere with expressing ideas.	<b>2 points</b> Many errors in grammar and spelling. Incomplete or incorrect sentence structure.	<b>3 points</b> Some errors in grammar and/or spelling. Awkward and/or confusing sentence construction.	<b>4 points</b> Minor errors in grammar and/or spelling. Sentences clear.	<b>5 points</b> No errors in grammar or spelling. Sentences and paragraphs are well constructed.	
<b>Content</b>	<b>2 points</b> Incomplete.	<b>4 points</b> Summary acceptable, and attempts at answering all questions are evident.	<b>6 points</b> Summary adequate, and all questions are answered.	<b>8 points</b> Summary is clear and concise. Questions are answered completely. Summary and answers show care.	<b>10 points</b> Summary is articulate and complete. Questions are answered thoughtfully. Summary and answers show insight.	
<b>MAXIMUM SCORE IS 25</b>					<b>Score:</b>	