

AP LANGUAGE AND COMPOSITION SUMMER READING ASSIGNMENT

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Due Date: September 23, 2022

You will be reading the nonfiction text *Into the Wild* by Jon Krakauer. Krakauer investigates the life and mysterious death of Christopher McCandless.

PART A Directions: In every nonfiction book, the author makes a claim or argument about his/her subject. The writer can have one main claim or multiple claims. Answer the questions below. You can create a chart like the one below or create your own chart. Read the instructions below the chart for details. (50 points)

1. Identify **TWO** major claims/arguments made by Krakauer. A “claim” is similar to the main idea; it is the author’s point-of-view, belief, or opinion about the topic. Example: Civil disobedience leads to social progress. Only by disobeying unjust laws can society grow and develop into a more humane and equal community.
2. Include (2) pieces of supporting evidence from the book for each claim. Be sure to include page numbers.
3. For the evidence analysis column, briefly explain the effectiveness or ineffectiveness of the evidence. Does it support his claim? Why or why not?
4. For the personal position, write your opinion about the topic.
5. List one to two experiences, observations, historical examples that support your opinion

Once you have read the text and completed the chart, you will select FIVE questions from the list to answer in detail. That will be Part B of your assignment.

Nonfiction Chart

Write a sentence or sentences expressing main arguments, or claims, made by the author.	Supporting Textual Evidence – Quote or paraphrase – include page number You need two pieces of supporting evidence from each claim.	Evidence Analysis – Describe or explain the quality of the evidence.(Does it support the claim? Why or why not?)	Write a sentence stating your position. (Basically do you agree or disagree with the claim)	List one to two experiences that support your argument. These can be personal, current events, observations, historical,etc. Include who, what, when, & where.
Claim 1	1.			1.

	2.			2.
Claim 2	1. 2.			1. 2.

PART B:

Directions: Select **FIVE** questions to answer. You must select **ONE** question from each category. For your answers to the questions, you will provide textual evidence – direct citation or paraphrase including page numbers. For each response, you should have a minimum of **EIGHT** well-developed sentences. (50 Points)

Questions about writing style and language of the author -- Locate a powerful passage and answer ONE of the questions:

- What is the writer’s tone? Optimistic? Pessimistic? Cautionary? Look at tone words.
- Was the language appropriate to the book? Was it more poetic or vernacular? Formal or informal? Did it stand in the way of your appreciation of the story, or enhance your enjoyment of the book? Was there a rhythm to the author's style, or anything else that might be considered unique about it?
- Was Krakauer fairly descriptive? Was he better at describing the concrete or the abstract?
- Was Krakauer clear about what he was trying to say, or were you confused by some of what you read? How did this affect your reading of the book?

Questions about author’s credibility -- Answer one of the following questions:

- In what ways do the events in the books reveal evidence of Krakauer ’s worldview? Do these affect his credibility?
- Did Kr Krakauer include background and research as part of the book and, if so, did it help your understanding of the subject?
- Does Krakauer present information in a way that is interesting and insightful, and if so, how does he or she achieve this?
- What do you think about Krakauer ’s research? Was it easy to see where he got his information? Were the sources credible?

- What evidence does Krakauer give to support the book's ideas? Does he use personal observations? Facts? Statistics? Opinions? Historical documents? Scientific research? Quotations from authorities? Is the evidence convincing? Is it relevant? Does it come from authoritative sources? Is the evidence speculative...how speculative?

Questions about themes, main ideas, social issues -- Answer ONE of the following questions:

- What passages strike you as insightful, even profound? Maybe there's a particular comment that states the book's thematic concerns.
- Is the ending satisfying? If so, why? If not, why not...and how would you change it?
- If you could ask the author a question, what would you ask? Have you read other books by the same author? If so, how does this book compare. If not, does this book inspire you to read others?
- What specific themes does Krakauer emphasize throughout the novel? What do you think he is trying to get across to the reader?

Questions about effect on reader -- Answer ONE of the following questions:

- Has this book changed you—broaden your perspective? Have you learned something new or been exposed to different ideas about people or a certain part of the world?
- Did certain parts of the book make you uncomfortable? If so, why did you feel that way? Did this lead to a new understanding or awareness of some aspect of life that you might not have thought about before?
- How did you experience the book? Were you engaged immediately, or did it take you a while to "get into it"? How did you feel reading it—amused, sad, disturbed, confused, bored...? It is okay to be honest.
- Did you like it more or less than other books you've read? What do you think will be your lasting impression of the book? What will be your most vivid memories of it a year from now? Or will it just leave a vague impression, and what will that be? Or will you not think of it at all in a year's time?
- Did you connect with the subject matter? Did it make you want to read more? Did it make you uncomfortable?
- How does this book relate to your life or experiences?
- What chapter or passage stood out for you or gave you an “a-ha!” moment about the topic?
- Did this book change your perspective — or maybe even your life?

Questions about author's purpose -Answer ONE of the following questions:-

- What is the purpose of this book, and who do you believe is the intended audience? Does the book have wide appeal?
- What did you already know about this book's subject before you read this book?
- What new things did you learn? What questions do you still have?
- Are the book's issues controversial? How so? And who is aligned on which sides of the issues? Where do you fall in that line-up?
- Did you learn something new? Did it broaden your perspective about a personal or societal issue? Perhaps about another culture in another country or an ethnic/regional culture in your own country?