

AP Lang English 11 Summer Reading 2026

Read *Grit* by Angela Duckworth and *Educated* by Tara Westover.

For *Grit*:

Write a 2-3 page essay that addresses one point from each of the three parts of the book and finishes with a reflection on your perspective about how persuasive you found Duckworth's arguments to be.

For *Educated*:

Create a scrapbook as if you are Tara the author writing about Tara the character's childhood. Your scrapbook must be a physical book, no electronic versions, of at least 10 pages not including the title page. The scrapbook pages should include: purpose in choosing memories, two tones (one at the beginning and one at the end), conflicts (both internal and external), symbols, language choice (have phrase or collection of words from a chapter) that shows an appeal to ethos, pathos, or logos.

Requirements:

1. Pages must be at least 8"x11" and no larger than 12"x12".
2. There must be at least 3 pictures on each page. These pictures may be hand drawn, printed, or from a magazine/newspaper.
3. Each picture must have a caption of at least 2 sentences explaining its importance to topic of the page
4. Each page must have a title to represent what is on the page (character, conflict, event, etc) and a year or setting to demonstrate approximately when or where it happened in the novel.
5. Each page must include a quote that represents why the topic of the page is important to the character's growth.
6. Pages must be bound together. They can be stapled along the left side or tied with ribbon.

You will also fill out the following SOAPSTONE for **each** novel. You may either print or save a copy to your computer so you can type on it.

Name:

Text:

SOAPS	Use direct quotations where possible.
Speaker: Describe the voice that tells the story. What is the writer's name? What are the writer's credentials? List the attributes that influence the perceived meaning of the piece.	
Occasion: What is the time and place of the piece? What is the context that prompted the writing? What is the larger occasion - an environment of ideas, attitudes, and emotions that are around a broad issue? Is there an immediate occasion - an event or situation that catches the writer's attention and triggers a response?	
Audience: To whom is this piece directed? Is this a person or group? Why is this piece directed toward this particular audience?	
Purpose: Describe the purpose behind the text. What is the thesis or argument and what is its logic?	
Subject: State the subject in a few words or phrases.	

TONE using DIDLS

Choose a passage within the text - a minimum of one page and no more than two pages - and complete the chart below. Specify page numbers **here:** _____.

	Use direct quotations in your responses:
<p>Diction: The connotation of the word choice. What words does the author choose? Consider his/her word choice compared to another. Why did the author choose that particular word? What are the connotations of that word choice?</p>	
<p>Imagery: Vivid appeals to understanding through the senses - concrete language. What does the author use? What does he/she focus on in a sensory way? The kinds of images the author puts in or leaves out reflect his/her style? Are they vibrant? Prominent? Plain? NOTE: Imagery differs from Details in the degree to which they appeal to the senses.</p>	
<p>Details: Facts that are included or that that are omitted. What details does the author choose to include? What do they imply? What does the author choose to exclude? What are the connotations of their choice of details? PLEASE NOTE: Details are facts. They differ from imagery in that they do not have a strong sensory appeal.</p>	
<p>Language: The overall use of language, such as formal, clinical, jargon, scholarly, vulgar, literal, poetic, obscure. Consider language to be the entire body of words used in a text, not simply isolated bits of diction. For example, an invitation to a wedding might use formal language, while a biology text would use scientific and clinical language.</p>	
<p>Syntax: How structure affects the reader's attitude. What are the sentences like? Are they simply one or two clauses? Do they have multiple phrases? Are they choppy? Flowing? Sinuous like a snake? Is there antithesis, chiasmus, parallel construction? What emotional impression do they leave?</p>	
<p>Overall tone: What emotion does the author want the reader to feel? What adjectives did the author use to make you think this?</p>	