

## AP US HISTORY Summer reading assignments (there are 2!)

Bayshore Christian School – Mrs. Conley

2025-2026 school year

### #1: Choose ONE book from the following list to read in its entirety

*The Autobiography of Frederick Douglass*, Frederick Douglass (AUTOBIO, SLAVERY)

*The Joyluck Club*, Amy Tan (BIO, CULTURAL ISSUES)

*Warriors Don't Cry*, Melba Patillo Beals (BIO, CIVIL RIGHTS)

*Voices from Vietnam*, Barry Denenberg (PERSONAL NARRATIVES, VIETNAM WAR)

*The Help*, Kathryn Stockett (FICTION, CIVIL RIGHTS ISSUES)

*Unbroken: A Story of Survival, Resilience and Redemption*, Lauren Hillenbrand (MEMOIR, WW2)

While reading, complete a reading journal-type written response for the book. Paper MUST BE HANDWRITTEN and include the following and be at least 2 hand-written pages (approx. 500 words):

1. Title of book and why you chose it
2. A brief summary of the overall theme/content of the book
3. Personal feelings about the book – likes and dislikes, agreements and questions. Use specific references to the content (i.e. – I loved chapter 11 because that's when so and so found out such and such...).
4. Discuss the historical significance or connections of the book. What happened that changed the course of the story or narrative? What broader historical meaning can you assign to the book? What connections can you make to broader historic issues or events?

### #2: Read the book *10 Days that Unexpectedly Changed America* by Steven Gillon

For each chapter, HANDWRITE the following (see above assignment for acceptable journal types):

- Two paragraphs summarizing the key ideas of the introduction. Be sure to mention the major themes the author introduces.
- For each chapter, summarize the key events of the day and explain why the day was significant in the nation's history. Analyze the **cause** and **effect** of each event.
- Conclude with 2 paragraphs explaining your favorite day and why it was your favorite.

Journal and response for #2 will be due the second FRIDAY after start of school (August 15, 2025). Students who enroll in AP US HISTORY later than August 2 will need to contact teacher for alternate due dates.