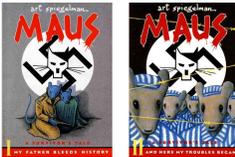


IB Summer Work

In our first unit in IB, students will explore how literature answers the bigger questions in society. They will look at three texts (*Maus*, *The Great Gatsby* and *The Awakening*) in an attempt to understand the following big picture questions:

- Can literature express truths that cannot be expressed in other ways? If so what sort of truth are these? How does this form of truth differ in other areas of knowledge?
- How does vocabulary influence meaning? Does language change based on the background, status, emotional state, or gender of the speaker or writer?



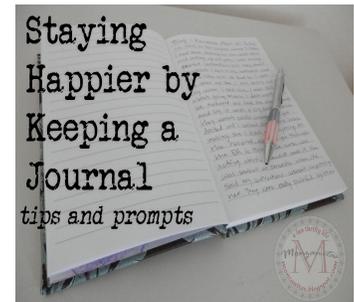
Maus is the first book we will study in depth. The two supplementary readings from the list below will complete our in depth investigation into the American Experience. The more you read from this list, the more rounded your **Individual Oral Presentation will be (your first IB Exam)**. As you read, ensure that you are referring to the above questions. You will have both a written response and a 2 minute oral presentation of each of the 3 books. You must also be prepared to create and answer your own open ended question for your Oral Presentation.

For example not just “Race and Gender” in the novels studied but
“How racial hierarchy is set up in the novels and the way it impacts on gender.”

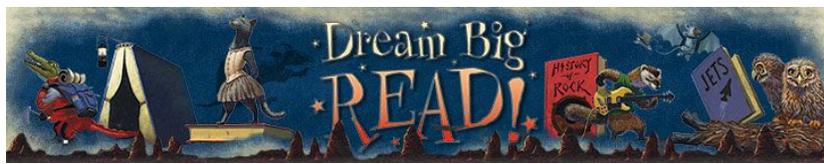
Rather than “Power Relations” you could say “How different characters’ power is presented through the use of language.”

You must also create and maintain a reader's journal for *Maus* and **1 other book**. It is recommended you keep a journal for all three. The journal must include the following:

1. *Reading Response Journal*. Keep a hand-written journal. For each chapter/section, include:
 - a. connections you make (text-to-self, text-to-itself, text-to-text, text to world);
 - b. a running list of words (and page numbers) to add to your lexicon;
 - c. a summary of plot and character development; if reading nonfiction, a summary of the information;
 - d. a description of the purpose of each chapter – both the literary and rhetorical purpose, if any; and
 - e. a record of the affect of the chapter on readers, both a personal response and what you imagine the contemporary response may have been.
 - f. Running log of quotes from the book



You must have at least 8 pages, no more than 12. If your book has 36 chapters, complete a page of journal entries for every 3 chapters.



IB Summer Reading list (pick 1 from each category):

Must Read:

Maus Art Spiegelman

Maus is a graphic novel by American cartoonist Art Spiegelman, serialized from 1980 to 1991. It depicts Spiegelman interviewing his father about his experiences as a Polish Jew and Holocaust survivor.

Pick 1 from each category:

Black America

The Skin I'm In Sharon G Flake

The Skin I'm In is a realistic fiction. It depicts the story of seventh grader Maleeka Madison who has low self-esteem because of her dark skin color.

Out of Darkness Ashley Hope Pérez

The novel chronicles a love affair between a teenage Mexican American girl and a teenage African-American boy in 1930s New London, Texas, occurring right up to the 1937 New London School explosion.

Autobiography of Malcolm X Alex Haley

The *Autobiography* is a spiritual conversion narrative that outlines Malcolm X's philosophy of black pride, black nationalism, and pan-Africanism.

The Color Purple Alice Walker

Taking place mostly in rural Georgia, the story focuses on the life of African-American women in the southern United States in the 1930s, addressing numerous issues including their exceedingly low position in American social culture.

LGTB America

Luna Julie Anne Peters

An unforgettable novel about a transgender teen's struggle for self-identity and acceptance.

Great Sara Benincasa

In this contemporary retelling of *The Great Gatsby* a teenage girl becomes entangled in the romance and drama of a Hamptons social circle.

What We Left Behind Robin Tally

A moving story about shifting gender identities, love, and belonging.

The Miseducation of Cameron Post Emily M. Danforth

Cameron is sent to a religious conversion camp that is supposed to "cure" her homosexuality where she comes face to face with the cost of denying her true identity.

Will Grayson, Will Grayson John Green and David Levithan

Told in alternating voices from two YA superstars, this collaborative novel features a double helping of the heart and humor that have won them both legions of fans.

