

Academic English 9 – Summer Reading

Required Reading:

***Maus I: A Survivor's Tale: My Father Bleeds History* by Art Spiegelman**

Maus I is a true story that depicts Art Spiegelman, a young man at the time, interviewing his father about his experiences as a Jew living in Poland and surviving the Holocaust. First published in 1980, *Maus I* became the first graphic novel to win a Pulitzer Prize in 1992 and continues to be widely read and taught in classrooms today.

(Note: Students will read *Maus II: And Here My Troubles Began* (Art Spiegelman) at the beginning of the academic school year. Please buy a copy as soon as convenient over the summer.)

Summer Reading Assignment:

I. Setting

In complete sentences, list five specific ways that the war affects the characters in *Maus I*.

II. Vocabulary

List at least ten words or phrases that are unfamiliar to you and look up the meaning of each. Provide the word or phrase, their definition(s), and the page number from which you found them in the novel. Definitions do not have to be in complete sentences.

III. Reading Journal

While reading, compose four reading journal entries chronicling your response to *Maus I*. A reading journal helps to keep track of what you read and your honest reactions to the text. Writing down your responses will help you to pause and reflect, ask questions, and possibly make connections from the text to your own life. Each journal entry should clearly state which chapter and page number(s) you are discussing. Each entry must be at least 150 words to receive full credit.

Possible journal lead-ins:

- This (character, event) reminds me of... because...
- When I read (chapter) I felt... because...
- What I found most interesting about (character, event, chapter) was... because...
- I predict... because...
- The part that confused me the most was...
- This chapter makes me want to...
- This (character, event, chapter) makes me think about _____ because...
- If I were (character) at this point, I would...
- I learned...

Submission Requirements:

All summer reading assignments must be typed. The printed copy of your assignment is due on the first day of school. Students will additionally be required to turn a digital copy of their assignment through Canvas, so please save your work! Instructions on how and when to submit your assignment digitally to Canvas will come after school starts.

Have a great summer and I can't wait to meet you!