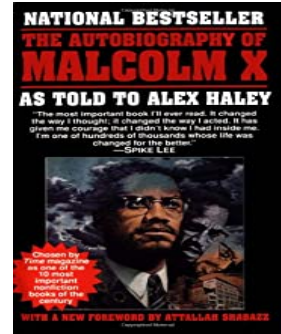


12th Grade Summer Reading 2020

The Autobiography of Malcolm X, by Alex Haley and Malcolm X



Summer Reading 2020 directions: Read *The Autobiography of Malcolm X* by the start of the 2020-2021 school year. Please see the back of this paper for key details.

*Copies of the book are being provided by Tapestry Charter School. These books will be given on loan, and must be returned this fall.

About the book:

“In the searing pages of this classic autobiography, originally published in 1964, Malcolm X, the Muslim leader, firebrand, and anti-integrationist, tells the extraordinary story of his life and the growth of the Black Muslim movement. His fascinating perspective on the lies and limitations of the American Dream, and the inherent racism in a society that denies its nonwhite citizens the opportunity to dream, gives extraordinary insight into the most urgent issues of our own time. The *Autobiography of Malcolm X* stands as the definitive statement of a movement and a man whose work was never completed but whose message is timeless.”

Why we are reading it (and what people say):

“Extraordinary . . . a brilliant, painful, important book.”—
The New York Times

“The most important book I’ll ever read, it changed the way I thought, it changed the way I acted. It has given me courage I didn’t know I had inside me. I’m one of hundreds of thousands whose lives were changed for the better.”—
Spike Lee

“Malcolm X’s autobiography seemed to offer something different. His repeated acts of self-creation spoke to me; the blunt poetry of his words, his unadorned insistence on respect, promised a new and uncompromising order, martial in its discipline, forged through sheer force of will.”—
Barack Obama, *Dreams from My Father*

ONE OF TIME’S TEN MOST IMPORTANT
NONFICTION BOOKS OF THE TWENTIETH
CENTURY

PART 1. Required Reflection--50 points. Due Friday September 11th

Pick from the following prompts and write a well-developed response to the question.

(1 page minimum; may be typed or hand-written)

1. Malcolm X was a man who went through many transformations. Discuss one of his transformations and relate it to a transformation you have undergone.
2. Malcolm X lived in turbulent times in America for African Americans. Discuss the way the world was back then and how you feel things have changed or are still the same.
3. Pick one of the events from the story of Malcolm X’s life that really connected with you. Discuss the event and how it impacted you.
4. Do you think one man can change society? Discuss the changes Malcolm X was trying to make in America. Explain why you feel he was successful or not.

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5. It has been said that Malcolm X both “inspired and petrified” the nation. Why do you think he was described that way?
6. Is this book still “essential reading” in today’s world? Make an argument why everyone should--or should not--read this book in 2020. What messages are still important? (or what messages are now irrelevant?)

Part 2 - CHOOSE 2 (of 4). Due Friday September 18th.

A. Illustrate a Passage (25 points)

Pick a section from the text, include the page number and a quote, then create an image to illustrate how you envision what is going on in that passage.

B. Find a Newspaper Article (25 points)

Malcolm X was a man who was often in the local and national media. Find an article from a newspaper that discusses him. Print out the newspaper article, read the article and write a short paragraph about what period of Malcolm X’s life the article is from. Links for on-line resources for this research can be found here: https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Wikipedia:List_of_online_newspaper_archives#United_States

C. Discuss a Quote (25 points)

Find a quote from the book or choose one of those below and write a paragraph that discusses the quote. You should write about what you “get” from the quote, how you interpret it, and what relevance it has to you.

D. Research a Reference (25 points)

In the text, Malcolm X makes a lot of references to the people and events from his life; from the Scottsboro boys to Louis Armstrong. Pick one of the people or events that he referenced, state where in the text you found the reference, the connection to Malcolm X, then give a typed paragraph overview of the event or biography of that person. Include an image of the person or event if you can find one.