Grade: 11
Level: Advanced Placement

Assignment: Read the required titles, *Native Son* by Richard Wright, as well as *Between the World and Me* by Ta-Nehesi Coates.

Note: Total number of books for Summer Reading: 2

Directions:
Please read Richard Wright’s *Native Son* in preparation for class discussions, formative assessments, and essays during the first few weeks of school. Since it is likely that a significant amount of time will pass between the reading and class activities, you are strongly encouraged to take notes on the novel.

Note: Richard Wright’s *Native Son* Although this novel appears huge, it is a deceptively fast read. Once you get caught up in Bigger’s predicament, you will not be able to put the book down until it is resolved (if it ever is)!

Also read *Between the World and Me* by Ta-Nehesi Coates. This contemporary non-fiction novel, written as a letter to the author’s teenage son, will help us to explore how the themes from Richard Wright’s novel have changed and developed over time.

You are encouraged to read additional selections of non-fiction (although not required). This can come from the independent reading list for 11th grade, or can be any non-fiction novel, biography, or group of essays. This type of reading will be continued throughout the school year in preparation for the AP exam in May.

For each novel and play read during this course, you will be required to complete a summary in the format attached to these directions. The best way to approach this is to create a template in MS Word (or similar program) and fill it in as you read each literary work. (The purpose for this will be explained later.) It is very important to note that these Literature Review Sheets are to be filled out in your own words! They must also be typed and accessible on your laptop for the start of school.

The curriculum for AP Language and Composition focuses on the concept of Rhetoric. This is a term that encompasses many concepts, including the art of argumentation. You will be asked to write an argument in the first few days of school that relates to your summer reading. To prepare to write this essay, we will do additional readings to help expand your understanding of the questions that the novel, *Native Son*, raises. Your success on this essay, and the readings that begin the year, will be dependent on your knowledge of the novel.

Assessment: You will receive credit for your completion of the Literature Review Sheet for both summer reading titles, which will be categorized as a supportive assessment. All other in-class assignments associated with Summer Reading will be categorized as formative assessments. **NOTE: You are required to complete (2) Literature Review Sheets (one per book).**

Visit the IMC the final week of school to borrow a copy of Native Son!
AP Language and Composition Summer Reading Assignment
Please complete a review sheet for both novels.
Due the first day of class.

Literature Review Sheet

Name:______________________________________________
Title:___________________________________________________
Author:_________________________________________________
Publication Year:___________

A. Symbols:

B. Themes:

C. Personal critical response:

D. General Information and Observations: (Optional/Recommended)