Welcome to AP English Language and Composition! Your summer reading assignment will be your first grade of the school year. It is essential that you complete it thoroughly and thoughtfully. Please follow the steps below carefully.

1. **Read The Grapes of Wrath** by John Steinbeck. There will be a test on this book in the first week of school.

2. **Read Complications: A Surgeon’s Notes on an Imperfect Science** by Atul Gawande or **Unbroken** by Laura Hillenbrand.
   
   a. Mark the book as you read. This means that you will identify major themes, the pieces of evidence he or she uses to support his or her arguments, phrases you find interesting and questions that you have as you read. Pay particular attention to voice, point of view, and tone.

   b. Select five quotes that you find most pertinent to the book’s themes and arguments. Write an *analytical* paragraph for each quote. Please do not paraphrase quotations; instead, critically examine how the author uses language, characterization and themes to create a meaningful text. This should be typed and brought to class on the second day of school.

3. Read an issue of *The New Yorker, The Atlantic, Harper’s, or The American Scholar* and write an *analytical* paragraph about the article you find most interesting. Please do not merely summarize the article. Be sure to also attach a copy of the article to your paragraph, which must also be typed.

You should also be ready to turn in all of your quotes, your paragraphs, and discuss the two books and one magazine that you read when we begin class in September.