AP English Language & Composition Summer Reading Requirements

Complete both assignments for the following two (2) texts:

Zeitoun, by Dave Eggers and The New Kings of Nonfiction, Edited by Ira Glass

Zeitoun

Dave Eggers

Assignment: Answer and type the following questions after reading the text and be ready to turn them in on the 1st day of class.

The true story of one family, caught between America’s two biggest policy disasters: the war on terror and the response to Hurricane Katrina.

Abdulrahman and Kathy Zeitoun run a house-painting business in New Orleans. In August of 2005, as Hurricane Katrina approaches, Kathy evacuates with their four young children, leaving Zeitoun to watch over the business. In the days following the storm he travels the city by canoe, feeding abandoned animals and helping elderly neighbors. Then, on September 6th, police officers armed with M-16s arrest Zeitoun in his home. Told with eloquence and compassion, Zeitoun is a riveting account of one family’s unthinkable struggle with forces beyond wind and water (Amazon.com).

Questions for Zeitoun:
1. How do disastrous situations bring about the extremes of human nature? What motivates the behaviors?
2. In times of great tragedy, there is often the need to assign blame. In the blaming process, sometimes innocent people suffer. What motivates people to search for a target & how does the target become a tragedy within itself?
3. With the survival of any ordeal, there comes great relief yet great pain. What accounts for the human tendency to fight ferociously for life, then feel tremendous guilt afterward?
4. The handling of most US disasters are influenced by technology, politics and the attitudes of the general public of the time. How did the handling of the disasters of 9-11 and Katrina reflect their time periods?

The New Kings of Nonfiction

Ira Glass, Editor

Assignment: Choose three (3) texts from this anthology and fill out one attached SACPETS handouts for each. Please do your best in answering the different sections of SACPETS. We realize you have not used all of these terms before, but we want you to demonstrate your initial knowledge as you enter into AP English Language & Composition. Be prepared to turn in this assignment on the 1st day of class.

A collection of stories-some well-known, some more obscure--capturing some of the best storytelling of this golden age of nonfiction.

An anthology of the best new masters of nonfiction storytelling, personally chosen and introduced by Ira Glass, the producer and host of the award-winning public radio program This American Life.

These pieces-on teenage white collar criminals, buying a cow, Saddam Hussein, drunken British soccer culture, and how we know everyone in our Rolodex-are meant to mesmerize and inspire (Amazon.com).
Steps to Analyzing a Text (SACPETS)

**Subject:** What is the subject of this selection? (What is the main topic?)

**Audience:** Who is the intended audience?

**Context:** What do you know about the writer or about the background when this selection was written?

**Purpose:** What is the message of this selection? What effect does the writer intend to have on the audience?

**Exigency:** What is the need or lack of something that explains the creation of this text?

**Tone:** What is the author’s attitude towards the subject and/or the audience?

**Strategies:** What strategies does the writer use to convey the purpose of this selection?
Steps to Analyzing a Text (SACPETS)

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**Audience:** Who is the intended audience?

**Context:** What do you know about the writer or about the background when this selection was written?

**Purpose:** What is the message of this selection? What effect does the writer intend to have on the audience?

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