**AP SUMMER READING ASSIGNMENT**

You may do this 2 part assignment for 1-3 of Summer Reading books for up to 3% extra credit in the 1st 9 Weeks. Your response should be 2-3 pages total for each. It is DUE 9/30. The possible book options are on the APHuG page of [www.themisterparsons.com](http://www.themisterparsons.com)

As a geographer, we see the world differently. We notice that one occurrence on earth affects other aspects of life. Locusts destroying fields in Southeast Asia raises the prices of coffee beans at Kroger. A scientific advancement in an industry can eliminate jobs for people whose manner of work is now outdated. A revolution can occur and consequently change generations of that nation and the world.

**The 5 Themes of Geography (“PLIRM”)**

As developed by National Geographic, the 5 themes of geography are different ways that people can view their surroundings and begin to analyze it. Here are some quick reminder definitions.

* **Place: Physical and Human Characteristics**. Place has physical and human characteristics that make them what they are. Geography emphasizes the understanding of both of these factors and their integration together. Physical characteristics are the natural aspects (trees, mountains, temperature). Human characteristics are what has been added (ruts in the road from wheels, etc.).
* **Location: Position on the Earth's Surface (Absolute/Relative)**. Geographic study begins with the location of places on the earth. Places have absolute locations that pinpoint them on the earth, and relative locations that place each location in respect to other locations. For example, North Dakota has an absolute location that can be pointed to on any basic map. It also has a relative location in that it has a location within the economic system based on its characteristics and location within the world market. North Dakota has its absolute location's characteristics for soil and climate, yet the success of wheat growing is also related to its location to the edge of more expensive farm land to the east.
* **Interaction (Human/Environment): Shaping the Landscape**. The landscape of the earth is no longer a purely physical feature. Human have impact every area of the earth, but in varying ways. The geography of places is influenced by the degree to which humans have impacted their local environment. How have we altered our lives because of the surrounding environment?
* **Regions: How They Form and Change**. The essential geographic feature is the region. A region is any unit of space that is unified by the presence of some characteristic. The Corn Belt, stretching from Indiana to eastern Nebraska, is an area in which corn is a dominating product. The Corn Belt is a region within the U.S.
* **Movement: Humans Interacting on the Earth**. The postmodern world is one of great interaction between places. This movement includes people moving from one place to another and communications.

**Part I Assignment –**

Find 2 examples of each of the 5 Themes of Geography in the book. Then explain how each example affected the story. That will be 10 total responses. They should be 3-5 sentences each. It can be typed or written. They should be well written and creative. It should be evident that you read the book and are familiar with the subject.

**Part II Assignment –**

Based on your observations in Part I, write a short essay (1-2 pages, with introduction, body and conclusion) about how it is different reading a book from a geographer’s perspective vs. reading it as just literature. How do you view circumstances? How did surroundings affect characters? Did certain places create different emotions for characters?