



Literature IV : Grade 12 *Summer Reading Assignment*

Purchase and read *Educated* by Tara Westover

During the first week of school, you will write an in-class essay based on your summer reading. You should prepare one page of notes or an outline that helps you address the prompt in class. This document may include bullet points, chapter references, and reminders—but not full paragraphs.

You will have one 50-minute class period to respond to the following:

Write an analytical essay in which you explore a central theme in *Educated* by Tara Westover. Your essay should present an arguable thesis statement that interprets how the theme is revealed and developed throughout the memoir.

You must support your thesis with specific examples from the text. You are not required to write out full quotations, but your examples should clearly reference important moments or developments in the memoir.

You may choose to focus on one of the following themes—or identify one of your own:

- The pursuit of education and personal transformation
- Family loyalty versus individual identity
- The power and danger of belief systems
- Isolation and self-discovery
- The role of memory and truth
- Resilience in the face of adversity

Your essay should:

- Present a clear, arguable thesis about the theme's role in the memoir

- Support your ideas with relevant and specific examples from the text
- Be well-organized, clearly written, and demonstrate attention to grammar, spelling, and coherence

This assignment is designed to assess your ability to think critically and write analytically. It will also help guide our discussions and writing goals for the year ahead.