

## Advanced English IV Summer Reading Assignment

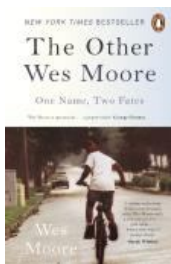
Welcome to Advanced English IV! Summer reading is an important tool for keeping your reading and reflective skills sharp. *The Other Wes Moore* is not just a summer assignment—it is the first of many texts we will return to throughout the year.

This year, English will be different from your previous three years. As seniors preparing to leave high school and pursue your next endeavors, our focus will shift toward college-level reading, writing, and thinking. Much of our work will be centered on developing the skills you will need for postsecondary success.

You are required to bring your book and present your annotations on the **first day of class**. Please note that if you change course levels over the summer, you must check the assignment for your new class. While most seniors will be reading the same book, assignments and expectations may differ by course.

If you need to contact me over the summer, please email me at [colleen.murphy@ahsrockets.org](mailto:colleen.murphy@ahsrockets.org).

Sincerely,  
Dr. Murphy



### The Book

*The Other Wes Moore* is a nonfiction book published in 2010. It tells the story of two boys who share the same name and grow up in similar environments, yet ultimately lead very different lives. The book examines how personal choices, family, community, and social forces shape identity and opportunity, particularly for young men growing up in challenging and sometimes hostile environments.

### The Assignment

Purchase and read *The Other Wes Moore*. As you read, you are expected to annotate the text thoroughly. Your guiding question for annotation is:

**What factors shaped the lives of the two Wes Moores?**

As you annotate, you should:

- Refer to the author Wes Moore as AW and the other Wes Moore as OW.
- Make margin notes about each Wes's values, beliefs, background, and experiences.
- Write your own questions in the margins about how specific people, events, and decisions influenced each Wes.
- Highlight, underline, or otherwise mark passages that provide insight into the guiding question.

## Looking Ahead

Within the first two weeks of class, you will write an essay about *The Other Wes Moore*. It will assess the following Essential Skills for Senior English:

- Identifying themes and/or claims in a text
- Explaining how specific evidence supports claims within a line of reasoning
- Demonstrating an understanding of the rhetorical situation
- Actively reading and annotating texts to evaluate and analyze meaning
- Using annotations to identify, evaluate, and analyze claims in an argument

Come prepared to engage deeply with the text—we will be building on this work from the very first day.