

Incoming 10th Grade Honors History Summer Reading and Writing Assignment

As you read *A Problem from Hell: America and the Age of Genocide* by Samantha Powers, annotate and complete the following.

1. Many genocides from before 2013 are brought up in the book. Pick two of them you had NOT heard of and write in 8-10 sentences for each genocide what you learned about each one.
2. There have been genocides since 2013, sadly. Conduct independent research about a genocide that has been conducted since then. In 8-10 sentences, write about what you learned about a recent one.
3. The book really puts America under the spotlight. Name two criticisms that Powers offers and two things that America does well.
4. Ultimately, this book is about the world responding to genocide. Name three strategies the world community should adopt to address and possibly stop genocide.

The book *All But My Life* by Gerda Weissmann Klein reveals the harrowing and true story of a teenager who survives the Holocaust.

1. HBO made an amazing documentary of her story. It is easy to find on YouTube, for free. Find it and watch it AFTER you've read. What are three things missing from the documentary you wish had been in the film? Why?
2. Surviving for her was clearly difficult and stressful beyond imagination. What are three survival tactics she adopted that helped her make it through?
3. If you could sit down with her and ask her three things about her experience, what would you ask and why?

Email your responses in a Google Doc by August 30, 2026 to Beth Krasemann (bkrasemann@crms.org)