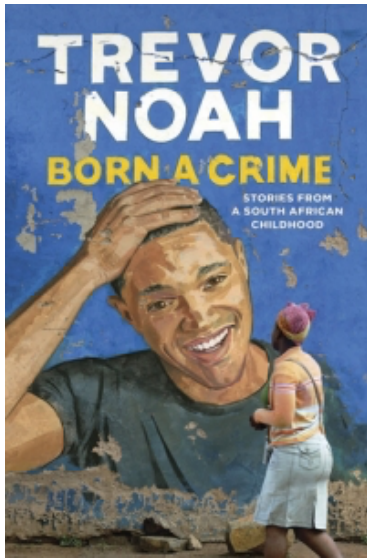


## Advanced Placement Language and Composition Summer Reading Assignment

All incoming AP Lang students should read Trevor Noah's *Born a Crime*. If you prefer, you can listen to the audio book. There will be no assignment over the summer, other than to read the book carefully. However, there will be a reading quiz on the whole book, and we will use several of the independent chapters to discuss rhetorical choices and author's purpose throughout the first few weeks of school.



*Born a Crime* is the story of a mischievous young boy who grows into a restless young man as he struggles to find himself in a world where he was never supposed to exist. It is also the story of that young man's relationship with his fearless, rebellious, and fervently religious mother—his teammate, a woman determined to save her son from the cycle of poverty, violence, and abuse that would ultimately threaten her own life.

The stories collected here are by turns hilarious, dramatic, and deeply affecting. Whether subsisting on caterpillars for dinner during hard times, being thrown from a moving car during an attempted kidnapping, or just trying to survive the life-and-death pitfalls of dating in high school, Trevor illuminates his curious world with an incisive wit and unflinching honesty. His stories weave together to form a moving and searingly funny portrait of a boy making his way through a damaged world in a dangerous time, armed only with a keen sense of humor and a mother's unconventional, unconditional love.

### Praise for *Born a Crime*

"[A] compelling new memoir . . . By turns alarming, sad and funny, [Trevor Noah's] book provides a harrowing look, through the prism of Mr. Noah's family, at life in South Africa under apartheid\*\*\*. . . *Born a Crime* is not just an unnerving account of growing up in South Africa under apartheid, but a love letter to the author's remarkable mother."—Michiko Kakutani, *The New York Times*

"[An] unforgettable memoir."—*Parade*

"What makes *Born a Crime* such a soul-nourishing pleasure, even with all its darker edges and perilous turns, is reading Noah recount in brisk, warmly conversational prose how he learned to negotiate his way through the bullying and ostracism. . . . What also helped was having a mother like Patricia Nombuyiselo Noah. . . . Consider *Born a Crime* another such gift to her—and an enormous gift to the rest of us."—*USA Today*

"[Noah] thrives with the help of his astonishingly fearless mother. . . . Their fierce bond makes this story soar."—*People*

\*\*\*Apartheid: ("apartness" in the language of Afrikaans) was a system of legislation that upheld segregationist policies against non-white citizens of **South Africa**. After the National Party gained power in **South Africa** in 1948, its all-white government immediately began enforcing existing policies of racial segregation.