

## AP STATISTICS SUMMER READING ASSIGNMENT

Welcome to AP Statistics! Our goal for this summer is to open our minds to the possibilities provided by the study of statistics. We hope to develop a notion of what exactly the study of *statistics* includes. We also hope that you will come back to school in August eager to attack an advanced placement curriculum, while learning to view the world around you through a new perspective. In order to accomplish this, you will choose a book from the list provided to read and report out on. You will be required to submit a written assignment broken down as follows:

**PRE-READING (no more than 1 page):** What does the term statistics mean to you? What impact do statistics have on your life and the world around you? What would you hope to learn from a course on Statistics?

**POST-READING (no more than 2 pages):** Write a summary of the book you chose to read. Be sure to address how statistics were involved, and how the study of statistics was defined, dealt with, discussed, etc. Return to your pre-reading assignment and discuss whether your views and ideas concerning statistics were confirmed or challenged. If any of your previous ideas have changed, please elaborate.

**This will be counted as a 40 point homework assignment (10 pts for pre-reading and 30 for post-reading), and our first grade for the year. It is due on the first day of classes. Your list of choices is below:**

The Lady Tasting Tea, David Salsburg, Owl Books, 2001  
The Drunkard's Walk, Leonard Mlodinow, Pantheon, 2008  
Moneyball: The Art of Winning an Unfair Game, Michael Lewis, Norton, 2003  
Freakonomics, Steven Levitt & Stephen Dubner, Harper Collins, 2005  
Damned Lies and Statistics, Joel Best, University of California Press, 2001  
Fooled by Randomness, Nassim Nicholas Taleb, 2004  
A Mathematician Reads the Newspaper, John Paulos, 1996  
How to Lie With Statistics, D. Huff, W. W. Norton, 1952  
The Cartoon Guide to Statistics, L. Gonick & W. Smith, Harper Collins, 1993  
200% of Nothing, A.K. Dewdney, John Wiley and Sons, 1996

You are obviously not required to purchase the book, but may do so if you choose. If you have trouble selecting or acquiring one of the books, or if you have any questions regarding the assignment, please contact me at [jbonner@mail.kana.k12.wv.us](mailto:jbonner@mail.kana.k12.wv.us)