All incoming 12th grade students are required to complete the following summer reading assignment. The assignment is due on the first day of school.

Students have a **CHOICE** of the following books:
1. *The Glass Castle* by Jeanette Walls
2. *Wild* by Cheryl Strayed

**Directions:** Only respond to the memoir you selected to read. Select **TWO** of the questions below and write an essay for each one (approximately 500 words per question). Each essay should include a thesis statement, topic sentences, sophisticated vocabulary, proper grammar, varied sentence structure and 3-5 pieces of properly cited evidence.

*Late Enrollment – Students who enroll after the semester begins will have 3 weeks to submit the assignment.*

**Format:** Essays should be typed, Times New Roman, 12-point font, 1-inch margins, MLA format, and double spaced.

1. The protagonist has many challenges. Pick a major issue and show how it significantly advances the plot or develops a theme.

2. Identify three to four symbols that represent metaphorical as well as literal elements in the memoir you selected to read. Be sure to explain their significance.

3. Name and explain three lessons that the protagonist learns about life and herself.

4. What parallels can you draw between the protagonist’s journey through life and the experiences and challenges of your own life?

5. Analyze the impact of the author’s choices regarding how to develop and relate elements of her story (consider setting, order of action, character development, etc.).