

AP Government & Politics Summer Reading Assignment

Profiles In Courage, written by John F. Kennedy was first published in 1956. It chronicles the political courage of eight men – John Quincy Adams, Daniel Webster, Thomas Hart Benton, Sam Houston, Edmund G. Ross, Lucius Lamar, George Norris, and Robert A. Taft. In light of the upcoming election this book will provide a foundation to build upon in terms of examining and discussing the intricacies of Congress, the role of elected officials, and political integrity.

Assignment: Read the book *Profiles In Courage* and answer the following (and bring to class the 2nd day of school):

1. According to John F. Kennedy what are the three pressures that discourage acts of political courage?
2. Write a brief synopsis of the American politicians whose stories are told here.
3. Explain which Senator you believe displayed the most courage.