

Student Name

AP English Language & Composition

Mrs. Flooding

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### Influential Passages Summer Assignment

“The warehouse was brimming with racks of geranium-red parkas, insulated Carhartt outerwear – familiar to me because they are a favorite with construction workers – and shelves upon shelves of fleece, wool and microfiber clothing and accessories. Your choices depended on where you were going on the continent and whether your job was primarily inside or outside. Mandy and I had to take more clothing than the men because we would be wintering over on the Ice. I had the most of all because I would be going to the Pole” (Nielson 39).

I chose this passage because I enjoyed the way the writer described the items in the warehouse. Honestly, the phrase “geranium-red” stood out to me because my mother grows geraniums in a planter on our front porch every summer and I knew the color immediately. It is a very bright red, and relates to Nielson’s experiences because everything at the South Pole seems to be white. A bright red jacket would stand out. This passage also reminded me just how much planning is involved in going somewhere like the South Pole to do research. Warm clothing is part of the reason that people can now survive the harsh winters there. There was a time that we didn’t have the technology to allow humans to study this region of the world. Nielson goes into the history of research at the South Pole at other areas of the book and this passage helps the reader understand the writer’s apprehension about traveling so far from home.

***THE ABOVE IS A SAMPLE OF A RESPONSE TO A CHOSEN PASSAGE FROM THE BOOK. THE SUMMER ASSIGNMENT REQUIRES FIVE PASSAGES TOTAL.***

## Works Cited

Nielson, Jerri. *Ice Bound: A Doctor's Incredible Battle for Survival at the South Pole*. New York: Hyperion Books, 2001.