

Advanced Placement Language and Composition Summer Assignment – 2021

- ❖ This assignment is not only designed to help you prepare for the upcoming school year, but for your eventual AP English Language and Composition exam and college, where skills developed through avid reading are essential. Only the well-read student can respond knowledgeably and intelligently to the open essay questions on the AP exam, which is why summer reading is vital to your success, as is the need for **continuous brain exercise** during the summer months.

Here, you will find the instructional requirements and materials for your summer assignment. This assignment is due on the first day of school and carries your first major writing grade for the school year. Remember to pace yourself accordingly during the summer break, as I will recognize last-minute or incomplete work when I see it.

The summer assignment for AP English Language and Composition not only indicates your willingness to work hard, but it also measures your commitment to the course. AP English class is for students who love to read and explore rhetoric and non-fiction. If reading is not something you enjoy, this may not be the course for you. An AP student is expected to put exceptional effort into all readings, as the workload will be consistent.

Texts: *In Cold Blood*, Truman Capote (buy the book)

How to Read Literature Like a Professor, Thomas C. Foster (buy the book)

Assignment:

1. Read Foster's *How To Read Literature Like a Professor*, annotate pertinent information you would like to address or discuss. These annotations (highlights, comments in margins, arrows, circles) will be checked first day back to school for credit. Use sticky notes on the pages.

2. Obtain, closely read, and annotate (sticky notes) Truman Capote's *In Cold Blood*. The majority of our reading in AP English Language and Composition will focus on non-fiction, argumentative writing; therefore, the book selected for the summer reading assignment reflects that focus. As you read, consider that non-fiction writing explicitly or implicitly makes an argument. What is the main argument of this book? What does the author do to support that argument? What elements or techniques from your Foster reading relate to what the author of your non-fiction book is doing?

3. **MLA format paper, 2-3 pages, three meaningful quotes for the following prompt:**

HOW DOES CAPOTE EMPLOY DICTION IN HIS DEPICTION OF HOLCOMB, KANSAS AND MORESO, HOW DOES HE SET UP HOLCOMB AS A PLACE WHERE NOTHING LIKE THIS COULD EVER HAPPEN?

Be specific in your references to language and of course, proper citations.

Please email me should you have a question. Don't hesitate. That's what I'm here for 😊