

Summer Reading  
AP Lang: Mr. Manser and Ms. Hogan

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Date: \_\_\_\_\_

Summer Reading Assignment:

- Mandatory Reading: Truman Capote's *In Cold Blood*
- Please select one of the following:
  - Trevor Noah's *Born a Crime: Stories from a South African Childhood*
  - Michael Pollan's *The Omnivore's Dilemma*
  - Tara Westover's *Educated*

**Please visit either the Guidance Department or English Department website for the required template to complete the summer work. Upload the template to Canvas by the due date (TBD).**

AP Language and Composition is a course about understanding and analyzing an author's techniques and purpose for writing. The course also requires you to understand various styles of argumentative and purpose-driven writing. Previous English classes have taught you to understand a work (summarization) and how that work conveys certain ideas (analysis). We must now move beyond those fundamentals toward a more complex understanding of how language is used to convey ideas, opinions, arguments, and occasionally stories.

1. Familiarize yourself with the term "rhetorical" and the terms: ethos, logos, and pathos before you begin reading.
2. *In Cold Blood*:
  - Take notes while you read. Consider how Capote recreates this story, his style and purpose for describing the town and people, how he presents the facts surrounding the murder, how he develops the psychological portraits of the main characters, his unique style of diction, phrasing and sentence structure that take this work beyond mere reporting, and his appeals to ethos, logos, and pathos to aid his purpose in writing. Teachers will expect to see notes taken either directly in the novel or in another location.
  - Vocabulary: Make a list of twenty (20) difficult or new vocabulary words from *In Cold Blood*. For each word: define it, identify the part of speech, list a synonym and create an original, well-written sentence.
  - Write a 2½ - 3 page (double spaced, MLA format) thesis driven essay that answers the following: What is Capote's argument, and how does he craft it? Your notes should help you write this essay.
3. Choice Read:
  - Take notes while you read. Teachers will expect to see notes taken either directly in the novel or in another location.
  - Vocabulary: Make a list of twenty (20) difficult or new vocabulary words from your selected book. For each word: define it, identify the part of speech, list a synonym and create an original, well-written sentence.
  - Complete a SOAPStone chart (see template).
  - Write a 1-2 page personal response (double spaced, MLA format) to the argument the author presents in your chosen text.
  - Find an article from a reputable news source that supports or opposes the argument presented in your selected text.

**Advice and Warning:** Struggling with new and challenging content can prove daunting, but we will spend the year working together with the demands presented by the reading and writing. You chose to enroll in an AP-level course; therefore, my assumption is that you desire a challenge and will be motivated to improve during the course of the year. Failure to complete the summer work may lead to the suggestion that you enroll in a different course.