

Summer Reading Assignment AP Language and Composition

Over the course of the summer you will be reading three different texts: *Me Talk Pretty One Day* (David Sedaris), *Huckleberry Finn* (Mark Twain), and *Outliers* (Malcolm Gladwell). As you read these texts you will be writing essays that correspond with each one. These essays will be submitted via email and will be posted on your blogs (if you do not have one, see Mr. George). Each document should be a Microsoft word document in proper MLA format in the (.doc) format, not (.docx). Each essay needs to be finished by a certain due date. Any late work, whatsoever, will receive an F. Each essay will be worth 75 points.

Essay 1: *Me Talk Pretty One Day*, David Sedaris

- You are to compose at least two separate 3+ page writing samples mimicking the style of Sedaris. For each assignment you must select a chapter from the text, and mimic the story telling of Sedaris, but using material from your own life. For example, you could mimic the structure of “Twelve moments in the Life of the Artist” by selecting 6 short stories to tell from your life.

This essay will be due by July 15.

Essay 2: *Huckleberry Finn* (3-5 pages)

- Describe how *Huck Finn* can be understood as a societal critique of the antebellum south. How does Twain use many characters along the journey to critique society itself?
- 1) How is Huck’s journey down the river a journey to a greater human understanding? How is Huck enabled to live outside of the confines of society, and in doing so, disinherit the bigotry that enveloped the south?

This essay will be due by August 1

Essay 3: *Outliers*

- In a 3-5 page paper state Gladwell’s hypothesis and outline the material that he uses to support it. What is the myth of success, and what is the true story that Gladwell postulates?

This Essay will be due by August 25

Remember, that throughout the summer I will be in China, but checking my email regularly, so if you have any questions, feel free to email me. However, you always have each other as resources.

The following is the class roster:

1. Hannah Smith
2. Rachel Rzeznik
3. Emmeline Aroush
4. QingFei Meng
5. Dasomi Kwon
6. Ceilli Rose
7. Sarah Bryant
8. Nick Leger
9. Brittany Williams
10. Melissa Johnson

You are all responsible for checking your email at least once a week in the event I change any aspect of the assignment.

Over the summer, feel free to be in touch with any questions. As you all know my email is nkim@trinitycatholic.com. I check it often, so don't hesitate to ask.

I want to stress that your work over the summer is worth 225 points of your first quarter grade. You will fail the first quarter if you choose not to do the summer assignments.