

AP English III Summer Reading Assignment

Students,

Welcome to AP English Language and Composition! Our purpose in the course is to fully understand the power of language. Naturally, we'll gain a finer appreciation for the written work of others, but along the way, we will learn to master our own use of language, achieved by studying technique and applying it to our delivery so as to achieve polish and precise control. How do we accomplish this? We'll take every opportunity to read critically and write with purpose.

Our summer reading will introduce you to the habit of close reading. The summer assignment will also introduce you to the themes we'll see in other works we'll study throughout the year, not only in our class but also in our partner course, AP U.S. History.

First, you'll need to obtain a copy of these two works from the library or the bookstore: Anne Lamott's *Bird by Bird* and *A Home on the Field* by Paul Cuadros. As you read, you'll be keeping a two-column journal. On the left side, write down parts of paragraphs, phrases, sentences, and/or quotations that you think are interesting or important. In the right column, write down your own thoughts, commentary, and questions about what is written in the left column. A minimum of 25 entries per novel needs to be recorded in each column. Including the page number as a reference in the left column is a must. Journals will serve as a springboard for class discussion and essay writing. These are due on the first day of class Tuesday, August 25. No exceptions. We also recommend purchasing *The Elements of Style* by William Strunk and E.B. White, a valuable reference tool for the AP writer.

Email any questions to sriggle@wcpss.net or mconnor@wcpss.net.

Happy reading and writing,

AP English III teachers