

**English 3 AP**  
**2017-2018 Summer Assignment**  
**Mrs. Wyatt**

The coursework for English 3 AP: Language and Composition starts with this assignment. This year's summer assignment involves reading a nonfiction book in order to continue learning the importance of rhetoric.

**Supplies you will need for your summer work and the 2017-18 school year:**

1. A 3 subject spiral with dividers and pockets. A majority of your work throughout the year will be done in this spiral. This spiral will be very important in tracking your notes and work throughout the coming school year, so please invest wisely.
2. A small folder with brads. This folder will serve as your writing folder throughout the school year. You will be expected to keep this folder with you throughout the year, so a small folder would be better than a binder.
3. Sticky notes (Post-Its), highlighters, and pens/pencils. You may use any color except red or purple.
4. A copy of *In Cold Blood* by Truman Capote. This can be purchased at any major bookstore or on Amazon.com.

**Summer Assignment #1: *In Cold Blood* by Truman Capote**

1. Conduct some preliminary research and discover basic information about Truman Capote's life. Discover who he was both as a person and a writer. Focus on what defines his writing style and traits.
  - In your spiral, write a brief summary about what you discovered about Truman Capote. (3-4 sentences)
2. Read *In Cold Blood*.
  - While reading *In Cold Blood*, you need to pay close attention to the writing. Things to look for are diction, images, details, syntax (sentence structure and punctuation), and style. This year we will be intently studying language and the ways in which authors present words. Therefore, it is best to start looking for those details with this book.
3. After completing the book, complete the following three activities.
  - i. Choose a quote (1-2 sentences) from each of the book's 4 sections that you believe exhibits the message Capote's was trying to convey for that specific section. Create a chart like the one below.

Do this in your spiral but on a clean sheet that can be torn out and turned in.

Section	Quote (include page numbers)	Explanation
Part 1: The Last to See Them Alive		
Part 2: Persons Unknown		
Part 3: Answer		
Part 4: The Corner		

- ii. Choose one notable passage from the entire book that you believe exhibits great writing.
  - The passage should be 1-2 pages long.
  - Mark the passage with a sticky note.
  - Annotate the passage based on the following elements.  
(You should annotate by underlining or highlighting, and writing comments out to the side.)

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1. Sentence Length: Short, Lengthy, Simple, Complex
  2. Meaningful Diction: Nouns, verbs, adjectives, adverbs
  3. Meaningful Punctuation: Dashes, parenthesis, ellipses
  4. Narrative Strategies: POV, Flashback, Foreshadowing, Imagery, Fig. Language, Pacing, Voice, Character Development, Thematic revelation.
- iii. Find a companion article to *In Cold Blood*. Conduct some research and find an article that relates to Capote's purpose in writing *In Cold Blood*, the argument of *In Cold Blood*, or any other literary/thematic connection to the book. Print this article and bring it to class on the first day of school. Be prepared to discuss its connection.

Important Note: It is important to read this book critically and carefully and ON YOUR OWN. Do not just use the internet to rely on what others have discovered while they have read the book. Relying on others' thoughts will not benefit you in this assignment or in this class.

**Summer Assignment #2: Entrance Interview Email**

In order to gain some background on who you are as an individual, you will conduct your first writing assignment for this class in an email that tells me a little about you. As we progress throughout the coming school year, I hope to learn many other things about you, but, for now, this is your chance to deliver a scripted first impression. Your goal in this email should be to impress me.

In the email, include thoughtful and honest answers to the following questions:

1. What motivated you to register for English 3 AP: Language and Composition?
2. Who has been your favorite teacher so far in school? Explain their teaching style and why you enjoyed it.
3. What are your expectations for yourself in this class this year?
4. How have you grown as a student since the beginning of your freshman year of high school?
5. What is your favorite song? Why? Quote your favorite part of the song.
6. If you could meet any famous person, dead or alive, who would it be? Why?
7. End with the answer to this sentence: "At the end of the 2017-2018 school year, I hope to \_\_\_\_\_."

The email needs to be sent to [wyyatk@needvilleisd.com](mailto:wyyatk@needvilleisd.com) **no later than Friday, August 18<sup>th</sup>**. After that date, I will assume you do not wish to take this class. Please include your first and last name in the subject line.

Other important information:

- Assignment #1 is due on the first day of school.
- Assignment #2 is due on/before Friday, August 18<sup>th</sup>.
- A test will be given over the comprehension of *In Cold Blood* during the first week of school.
- For any questions over the summer assignment, please email Mrs. Wyatt at [wyyatk@needvilleisd.com](mailto:wyyatk@needvilleisd.com). Please note that this email is not checked daily. Please allow several days for a reply.