

Summer Reading for Incoming AP English Language and Composition Students/AUGUST 2017

Your summer reading consists of three essays based on three readings found in most college-level rhetorical readers. All three readings are easily accessed ONLINE so that you will not need to purchase any materials.

It is extremely important that the three essays are in MLA format. Please access MLA online or OWL, Purdue University's Online Writing Lab if you are unsure of any particulars concerning MLA format. PAPERS WILL BE RETURNED FOR REVISING PURPOSES IF MLA FORMAT IS NOT USED PROPERLY.

Essay #1

Read Jonathan Swift's "A Modest Proposal" and decide if Swift's satiric proposal is gentle, biting, or a combination of the two. Write an essay of at least 5-6 paragraphs of at least 10-15 sentences each (500 words, minimum) in which you support your assertion with quotes from Swift's satire.

Essay #2

Read Martin Luther King, Jr.'s "I Have a Dream" speech and write an argument either for or against the following proposition: the essential elements of Martin Luther King, Jr.'s dream have become reality today. Again, the essay must be at least 5-6 paragraphs of at least 10-15 sentences each (500 words, minimum).

Essay #3

Read Annie Dillard's "Living Like Weasels" from *Teaching a Stone to Talk* and analyze the effects of nature vs. civilization in the following manner: focus on the first section after the introduction that deals with the physical location of her weasel sighting. As you read through the five paragraphs, discuss the images that relate to nature vs. civilization. Next, move to the part of the essay that begins with "Weasel!" and discuss Dillard's verifiable facts vs. the analysis or interpretation of those facts. Be certain that your transition from one part of the essay analysis to the other is clear and smooth. Again, the essay must be at least 5-6 paragraphs of at least 10-15 sentences each (500 words, minimum).

STAPLE THE THREE ESSAYS TOGETHER IN THE ORDER ABOVE (1 on top; 2 in middle; 3 on bottom) and HAVE THEM READY TO HAND IN ON THE FIRST DAY OF AP ENGLISH LANGUAGE AND COMPOSITION CLASS, AUGUST 2017.

*This assignment counts as your first TEST GRADE of the year; therefore, complete it carefully and thoroughly.