

AP English Language & Composition Summer 2018 Assignment

There are three parts to your assignment for this summer. Let us start our journey!

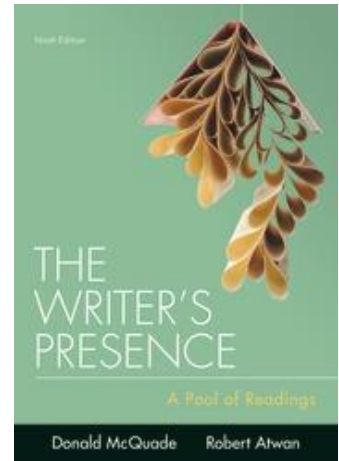
PART I: Nonfiction Selection

The Writer's Presence: A Pool of Readings

Ed. Donald McQuade and Robert Atwan **(9th Edition)**

In this text, please read and annotate the introduction to argumentation and the three essays listed below.

1. *Argumentative Writing: Contending with Issues*
2. Steven Pinker, *Violence Vanquished*
3. Michael J. Sandel, *What Isn't for Sale?*
4. Laura Kipnis, *Against Love*



PART II: Periodical Reading

It is important for this course that you read widely and continuously about current events--local, national, and international-- as well as issues and topics of interest in fields such as science, economics, and psychology.

Think of a current issue or topic addressed in one of the above essays that interests you. During the summer, collect **four substantial pieces** that focus on your topic (at least 300 words long—no maximum length, one can be a visual piece such as a comic or political cartoon). ALL should be **argument or opinion pieces**, not news stories or informational articles. Choose articles that address a range of opinions or perspectives about the topic. The goal is to see the differing ways your topic is presented and discussed by people who may have different agendas! Make sure to draw from at least two different publications.

Keep your articles **together** in an electronic folder (links on a document work as well). I will be asking you to discuss them in class during the first few weeks.

Suggestions for sources:

The New York Times (US newspaper)

The Economist (UK news magazine)

The Washington Post (US newspaper)

The Guardian (UK newspaper)

Time (US news magazine)

The New Yorker (US ideas magazine)

Salon.com (online ideas magazine)

Slate.com (online ideas magazine)

The Atlantic (US ideas magazine) or *Atlantic* online

NOTE: Sports, lifestyle, or popular culture/entertainment magazine are not recommended unless the writing you are using from them is substantial *and* develops an opinion or argument.

PART III: America in Fiction

Please choose **one** selection from the list below to read and annotate. You will have two assignments directly pertaining to this novel, and opportunities to reference this text in your junior and senior year.

During the first week of school, come prepared with a double-entry journal where you interact with a minimum of eight quotations from the novel.

For the double entry journal: Select passages that are rich in meaning and style (passages that reveal the choices of the author) and cite the page number; in another column, discuss elements of language and style, and relate the passage to questions, themes or motifs in the novel as a whole. Your interaction with each passage should exhibit an authentic conversation (both an understanding of the text and questioning that leads to a deeper connection). Your journal may be typed or handwritten and should be organized and professional in appearance.

Cather, Willa	<i>My Antonia</i>
Gaines, Ernest	<i>A Lesson Before Dying</i>
Irving, John	<i>The Cider House Rules</i>
Kingsolver, Barbara	<i>The Poisonwood Bible</i>
McCarthy, Cormac	<i>All the Pretty Horses</i>
Shaara, Michael	<i>The Killer Angels</i>
Smith, Betty	<i>A Tree Grows in Brooklyn</i>
Tan, Amy	<i>The Kitchen God's Wife</i>