

## 11APLA Required Summer 2019 Reading & Writing Assignment

**Letter ~ DUE: Friday, August 30**  
**Dialectical Journals ~ DUE: Monday, September 9**

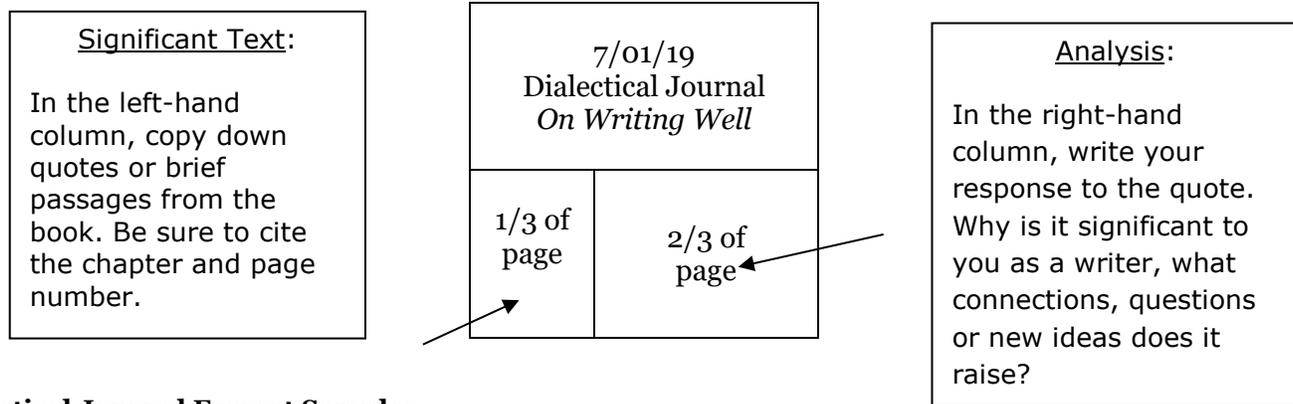
Welcome to 11<sup>th</sup> grade Advanced Placement Language and Composition. To prepare you for a rigorous junior year in which you will grow as a reader, writer and thinker, we have collected a series of challenging and, we believe, interesting books to choose from for the summer. We expect that these readings will help you prepare for a stimulating college-level course. Please plan and pace yourself over the summer – the three assignments take time and to avoid undue stress and sloppy work, we recommend that you don't save them until the end of August.

**ASSIGNMENT I:** Read the assigned sections of William Zinsser's *On Writing Well: The Classic Guide to Writing Nonfiction* (if possible, purchase a copy of this – used versions are easy to find but you should look for the most current edition you can find). While reading, create a dialectical journal, in which you pick at least 25 (25) significant passages from the book (try to space them out evenly throughout the entire text) and record your thinking – the significance to you as a writer, connections, and/or questions raised. Your responses should be about 3-6 sentences written as a paragraph or bullet points. Your dialectical journal must be typed or neatly written on loose-leaf paper. It should NOT be in a notebook/journal.

**SECTIONS TO READ:**

- Part I
- Part II
- Part III: Chapter 11 & One additional chapter of your choice from this Part
- Part IV

### ASSIGNMENT I ~ Dialectical Journal Format



**Dialectical Journal Format Sample:**

Quote/Passage from <i>On Writing Well</i>	Significance / Connections / Questions
1. July 1, 2019  "The point is that you have to strip your writing down before you can build it back up. You must know what the essential tools are and what job they were designed to do." (Chpt. 1, p. 18)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• This reminds me of Stephen King's advice to writers and his 'tool box' analogy.</li> <li>• It seems that writers need to 'know' the rules in order to be able to improve their writing over a series of drafts.</li> <li>• What can writers do to really learn these different tools and learn how to best utilize them to become better writers?</li> </ul>

**ASSIGNMENT II:** Choose one (or more) of these AP worthy American lit novels from the list below. If you're not sure about a book, ask around or check out reviews/summaries at [www.spl.org](http://www.spl.org), [www.goodreads.com](http://www.goodreads.com) or [www.powells.com](http://www.powells.com). Please don't select a book by its length – some of the long ones are fast-reads and some of the short ones are slow-reads. Choose a book that interests and excites you. Pick a book you will enjoy!

*Adventures of Huckleberry Finn* – Mark Twain  
*Age of Grief* – Jane Smiley  
*All the Pretty Horses* – Cormac McCarthy  
*The Beet Queen* – Louise Erdrich  
*The Bluest Eye* – Toni Morrison  
*Beloved* – Toni Morrison  
*Breathing Lessons* – Anne Tyler  
*Ceremony* – Leslie Silko  
*The Color Purple* – Alice Walker  
*Dinner at the Homesick Restaurant* – Anne Tyler  
*The Grapes of Wrath* – John Steinbeck  
*Love Medicine* – Louise Erdrich

*Native Son* – Richard Wright  
*Native Speaker* – Change-rae Lee  
*A Prayer for Owen Meany* – John Irving  
*The Risk Pool* – Richard Russo  
*The Road* – Cormac McCarthy  
*The Scarlet Letter* – Nathaniel Hawthorne  
*Slaughterhouse Five* – Kurt Vonnegut  
*The Sound and the Fury* – William Faulkner  
*The Sun Also Rises* – Ernest Hemingway  
*A Thousand Acres* – Jane Smiley  
*White Noise* – Don DeLillo  
*Wise Blood* – Flannery O'Connor

**ASSIGNMENT III:** Write a letter, and mail it - yes, with a stamp (post-marked no later than **August 30**). In your concise, well-written letter, describe your summer reading experiences. Consider what you enjoyed, what you found interesting and/or challenging, and what your reading prompted you to think about. Include specific details from your chosen novel to support your thinking. Feel free to share ideas about anything else you read over the summer (fiction or nonfiction). The tone of the letter may be informal and personal but the format must be **typed (1 page, single spaced)**.

***Send it by regular US mail*** to Ms. Storey care of:  
 Ballard High School, 1418 NW 65<sup>th</sup> St. Seattle, WA 98117

## DUE Date Reminders

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### CC Standards Addressed & Assessed:

**ASSIGNMENT I:** Reading Informational Text 1. Read closely to determine what the text says explicitly and to make logical inferences from it; cite specific textual evidence when writing or speaking to support conclusions drawn from the text.

**ASSIGNMENT II:** Reading Literature 10. Read and comprehend complex literary and informational texts independently and proficiently.

**ASSIGNMENT III:** Reading Literature 1. Read closely to determine what the text says explicitly and to make logical inferences from it; cite specific textual evidence when writing or speaking to support conclusions drawn from the text.

Writing 2. Write informative/explanatory texts to examine and convey complex ideas and information clearly and accurately through the effective selection, organization, and analysis of content.

Language & Conventions 1. Demonstrate command of the conventions of standard English grammar and usage when writing or speaking.

Language & Conventions 2. Demonstrate command of conventions of standard English capitalization, punctuation and spelling when writing.