

Ola High School 11th Grade English (Honors III & AP Language)
SUMMER READING ASSIGNMENT

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Rationale:

These courses are accelerated and intended to give students a broader and more rigorous experience than a general level course. The kind of academic writing required for college is more sophisticated than what is assessed on standardized tests.

This particular text and the accompanying assignment will give you valuable practice with the art of composition over the summer. You have years of experience with “writing essays” in your past English courses, but the scope and sequence of this advanced courses is unlike those you have experienced so far. Therefore, the kind of writing you will do for this course requires a different approach and focus than that of your past writing.

This is an accelerated, rigorous course; you are expected to honor your commitment to work independently. You should not put off the reading and writing until the last part of the summer. Instead, re-develop the habit of reading 30-45 minutes 5 days a week (daily if at all possible). **If you work for an hour a day, you should be able to complete the entire assignment (reading and writing) in 15 days.**

Texts:

1. **(Required)** They Say/I Say: Moves that Matter in Academic Writing **2nd edition** by Gerald Graff and Cathy Birkenstein --- ISBN 978-0-393-93361-1 *******Be certain to get the 2nd edition;** it is smaller and less expensive than the first edition or the first edition with readings. (I’ve seen a few PDF versions online too.)

AND

2. **(Required)** **AND ONE or more of the following**

The New Jim Crow: Mass Incarceration in the Age of Colorblindness Michelle Alexander

Quiet: The Power of Introverts in a World that Can’t Stop Talking Susan Cain

Between the World and Me Ta-Nehisi Coates

The Water is Wide Pat Conroy

Blue Nights Joan Didion

Nickle and Dimed or *Bait and Switch* Barbara Ehrenreich

The Thirteen American Arguments by Howard Fineman

Black Like Me John Howard Griffin

Fire in the Ashes or *Savage Inequalities: Children in America’s Schools* Jonathan Kozol

Missoula Jon Krakauer

Reading Lolita in Tehran Azar Nafisi

Reign of Error Diane Ravitch

Lean In: Women, Work, and the Will to Lead Sheryl Sandberg

Wild Cheryl Strayed

Just Mercy Bryan Stevenson

Reclaiming Conversation Sherry Turkle

Hillbilly Elegy JD Vance

The Glass Castle Jeanette Walls

White Like Me: Reflections on Race from a Privileged Son Tim Wise

Columbine Dave Cullen

The books can be purchased online, in bookstores, and may be carried in the public libraries. **Books-A-Million on Jonesboro Road has copies of most (they do not carry the They Say/I Say: Moves that Matter in Academic Writing but they can order it).** Most book stores offer student discounts; ask for one.

High quality used copies can be found at various websites – my favorite is www.betterworldbooks.com. I STRONGLY suggest getting your copies early to avoid any back order issues.

Assignment and Directions:

DIRECTIONS

1. Read the introduction plus the first 12 chapters of *They Say/I Say*
2. Read a book of your choice from the list given.
3. **Write an essay** (between four and six pages PLUS a works cited page) **in which you discuss the importance of the social issue** in the text you chose. You should use AND MARK a MINIMUM of 6 different academic “moves” in your response (what you while reading TS/IS) when writing this essay. Chapters 1, 2, 4, 5, 6, 7, 9, 10, and 12 are excellent choices to include.

Please construct an essay **that goes beyond summary**. You are picking a position and defending your choice.

For instance: What is the message about the topic? How is it applicable to life as you know it? Your response to the author’s perspective on the topic? Where do you disagree w/the author? Why?

Your Response MUST:

- Be **typed** in a 12 point Times New Roman font.
- Be correctly formatted according to MLA guidelines (see <https://owl.english.purdue.edu/owl/resource/747/24/> for instructions and examples)

You will turn in your work during the first week of school --- most likely the first Wednesday. The responses will be assessed for both quality and content. Honest attempts are better than no attempts at all (plagiarism is equivalent to a non-attempt). You have plenty of time to think, edit, and revise; please do so.

COMPLETE assignments that are turned in on time will be afforded the opportunity for partial revision and an improved grade.

Please contact me early (email or social media listed at the top of page 1) if you have questions. I want to answer your questions and assist you, but keep in mind I will be at work the week before school starts; this means that I won’t be as accessible to you to answer questions during that time.