

AP English Language and Composition

Summer Assignments

Dear Student,

Congratulations on your decision to enroll in Freedom High School's AP English Language and Composition Course for 2017-2018 school year.

According to the AP English Course Description published by the College Board, the stated purpose of this course is to “*emphasize the expository, analytical, and argumentative writing that forms the basis of academic and professional communication.*” To that end, this document provides information on your summer reading assignments.

The summer assignment consists of the following two (2) titles:

***Angela's Ashes* by Frank McCourt**
&
***In Cold Blood* by Truman Capote**

Good readers interact with a text in order to increase comprehension and to awaken critical insight. To that end, we strongly recommend that each student purchase his or her own copies of the required texts. While reading, you will want to annotate (underline, highlight, write notes) significant literary elements within the texts. It is not necessary to purchase new books as you can locate used editions through many online booksellers.

Book #1

Text: ***Angela's Ashes* by Frank McCourt**

Preview: In the extraordinary memoir, the author transforms the story of an Irish-Catholic childhood lived in poverty, misery, and despair into a mesmerizing tale filled with wit, love, and forgiveness.

Reviews: “It is only the best storyteller who can so beguile his readers that he leaves them wanting more when he's done. With *Angela's Ashes*, McCourt proves himself one of the very best.” -- Malcom Jones, Jr. *Newsweek*

Assignment for *Angela's Ashes*

- ✓ You will identify passages (textual support) that illuminate the following three topics: **poverty, alcoholism, and religion.**
- ✓ For each entry, you will identify the passage (column 1), the topic (column 2) and your analysis (column 3).
- ✓ You are required to have **10 entries that should be spaced throughout the book.** (You will lose points if all your entries are from the beginning of the book.)
- ✓ An assessment of your understanding of the book as well as your analysis of the three topics will be the focus of a timed writing assessment during the first week of school.

General Instructions

- Each entry should be typed in the **appropriate format** and should be **approximately 1/4 page** in length.
- Make sure to include the **page number after the quoted text**.
- Include the **text passage** and your **analysis**.

SAMPLE ENTRY

Please type the following header (left side) on your assignment:

Your name

Mr. Ziegler

AP English Language

Date

Angela's Ashes Assignment

Sample of Journal Entry Format

Text Passage	Topic	Analysis
“Record passage/lines from the book in this space. Do not use ellipsis before, after, or during a quote. If the passage is important enough comment on, then document it all. Don’t forget to include the page number after the text reference” (41).	Enter one of the three topics here (poverty, alcoholism, or religion).	In this space you are to examine how the topic impacts Frankie personally as his developing outlook on his family, his environment, and his world.

Assignment for *In Cold Blood*

- ✓ You will identify passages (textual support) that illuminate the following stylistic choices :
diction, syntax, imagery, figurative language
- ✓ For each entry, you will identify the passage (column 1), the style term (column 2) and your analysis (column 3).
- ✓ You are required to have **10 entries that should be spaced throughout the book**. (You will lose points if all your entries are from the beginning of the book.)
- ✓ An assessment of your understanding of Capote’s writing style will be the focus of a timed writing assessment during the first week of school.
- ✓ Use the same format for your entries as in the *Angela’s Ashes* sample.

Important Note: It is expected that all work submitted is the sole work of the student who is submitting the assignment. No outside resources (other than the novel) are needed in order to complete the assignment. Students are NOT permitted to work on the assignments together.

Have a great summer!

Questions? Email Mr. Ziegler at
gziegler@basdschools.org