

**Reading List:** Stephen King, *On Writing*  
Memoir Choice (See list below)  
Harper Lee, *To Kill a Mockingbird*

**Please sign up for Google Classroom - (turnitin info will be provided there)**

### **Assignment 1 - *On Writing* by Stephen King & Writing Assignments**

**PLEASE NOTE - Assignment #1 should be completed using MLA format.**

Stephen King is a popular novelist, and here he has compiled a text that is part memoir and part writing advice. The book is divided into four sections: “C.V.,” “Toolbox,” “On Writing,” and “On Living: A Postscript.”

Take note of Stephen King’s use of voice throughout the text. He has compiled experiences that have shaped him into who he is as a writer. Using the advice he gives in order to write well, write your own vignette of an incident in your life that has influenced you as a reader and/or writer. Your own personal voice should shine through (do not try to copy King’s voice), and your experience should tell me something about you as a reader/writer. **Make it interesting. This assignment should be 1 ½ to 2 pages in length (typed, double-spaced). It is not to exceed two full pages.** (No quotes or references to the text are required - this is a personal narrative piece.) If possible, turn this narrative in BEFORE school starts. **Also, be prepared for a test and/or essay on the text during the first week of school.**

### **Assignment 2 - Memoir Choice**

Choose ONE of the following texts to read:

*Beautiful Boy* by Sheff  
*Into Thin Air* by Krakauer  
*Just Mercy* by Stevenson  
*Educated* by Westover  
*Born a Crime* by Noah

1. READ and PURPOSELY ANNOTATE your Choice Book. Good notes tend to enhance comprehension and retention of ideas as well as stimulate thoughtful conversation. Your annotations should be handwritten either in the book or on sticky notes in the book. Use the Padlet guidelines below to focus your reading and annotations. Remember that annotating is your way of having a conversation with the text. It is less about summarizing and more about noticing, reacting, questioning, appreciating. You should include a minimum of twenty (20) sticky notes. Make them count.
2. Padlet Passage Analysis: While reading one of the choice memoirs, you will be creating a **Padlet Board** online. Think of it as a “Pinterest Page” or “Idea Board” that shares your reading experience.

Complete each of the following tasks. You must use a minimum 15 TOTAL passages from the memoir to support your thinking. Assign the passages to any of the tasks; for example, maybe you need three passages to support your thinking about the theme but only two passages for obstacles -- it's up to you as long as you respond to the prompts and support your responses with evidence from the text. You DO NOT need 15 passages per task but at least 15 passages TOTAL for the project. *The organization of the Padlet board is up to you.* How will you organize the information so it is clear? What creative touches will you add?

**Tasks: Complete ALL**

- **Emotional Journey:** What was the most emotionally devastating moment in the story? What were the important events that gave hope and/or joy to the writer? When was the writer most frightened? What was the impact of these moments on the writer?
- **Obstacles:** What were the major obstacles that stood in his or her way of achieving their goals? How did they overcome these obstacles?
- **Relationships:** What were the most important relationships between the writer and a particular person (s), place (s), animal, object, etc? How was that relationship significant?
- **Theme:** What overarching theme or lesson does the writer focus on? What was your takeaway from the story?
- **Craft:** What rhetorical strategies does the writer use to tell his or her story and connect with the audience and why? What is the author's style? What kinds of appeals does he or she use? Consider tone, figurative language, imagery, diction, syntax, structure, and anything else the author does to achieve their purpose. Consider HOW the strategy achieves the purpose and the response it evokes in the reader.
- **Beautiful Words:** What passage touches your heart? What do you consider beautiful writing and why?
- **King Connection:** How has this author used King's advice about writing memoirs?

Complete and submit your Padlet to Google Classroom by **the first day of school**. Be prepared for a test, essay, and/or project in the first week of school.

**Assignment 3 - Read *To Kill a Mockingbird***

This very famous novel explores family relationships, small town life, racism, heroism, and growing up in the South in depression era America. The novel is written from the point of view of Scout, our main character, as a grown up, although almost of the novel is the story of her childhood. There are two main storylines that run throughout the novel. Consider how these two stories tie together and what the narrator learns

through the course of the novel as well as what we the reader should take from the text. **You have no written assignment with this text, but be prepared for a test and/or essay the first week of school.**

#### **Assignment 4 - Literary Terms**

Your knowledge of literary terms is essential to your success in the AP Language course. We can't talk about an author's craft without the vocabulary to do it. Therefore, I would like you to come to class in September already familiar with the terminology I will be using in class. Please learn the meanings of the literary terms in the attached packet. If the term is not underlined, you should read it over, but I will be teaching it in class. You are responsible for ALL underlined terms. **You will be given a literary terms quiz during the first week of school and throughout the year.** The Literary Terms packet will be given in Google Classroom.

Good luck! Feel free to email me with any questions or concerns and I will get back to you. Have a wonderful summer and I'll see you in September!

#### **Padlet Rubric**

<b>Needs Improvement</b>	<b>Passages</b>	<b>Excellent)</b>
	<b>Quantity:</b> passages/page numbers/quotes picked are chosen from throughout the novel	
	<b>Quality:</b> quotes are relevant, important, and thought-provoking and clearly support commentary	
	<b>Analysis/commentary:</b> clearly responds to the prompts and demonstrates deep thinking and close reading of the text	
	<b>Grammar/Mechanics:</b> few if any errors	
	<b>Presentation/Proofreading:</b> pride in work is evident; Padlet is organized, easy to understand/navigate, and creative	
	<b>Total Points</b>	