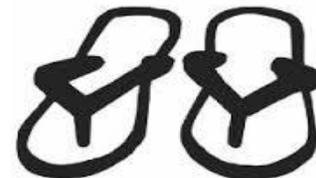




## Westhill High School Summer Reading: AP Language and Composition (11)



**You must complete TWO assignments over the summer. BOTH are listed below.**

### **Assignment #1: *On Writing: A Memoir of the Craft* by Stephen King**

Although King's book gives advice to the prospective writer of fiction, many of the lessons it teaches can be applied to academic writing (for school). Be on the alert for such lessons in order to respond to the following questions. Make certain that you answer all parts of each question, and that you support your ideas with strong and thorough evidence from the text (cite quotes when used). This assignment should be submitted as a word document to **Turnitin.com** by **Tuesday, September 5, 2017**. Your AP Teacher will provide specific details about how s/he will be assessing your work on the first day of school.

**A PDF version of this text is available on the Westhill website!**

1. In the first section, titled "C.V." or Curriculum Vitae, which means "life curriculum" or resume, King discusses the relationship between personal experience and writing. What argument about that relationship does King make? How has that relationship expressed itself in his life? Provide at least two examples. How can his argument apply to academic writing?
2. Identify five writing tips that you take away from the second section, titled "Toolbox." In what way is each tip useful? Explain.
3. In section three, titled "On Writing," King makes the following claim: "If you want to be a writer, you must do two things above all others: read a lot and write a lot" (145). What are his reasons for making this claim? Explain how this practice is evident in his own life.
4. King uses the following metaphor to describe the writing process: "Write with the door closed, rewrite with the door open" (209). Explain the metaphor as it applies to audience and discuss how this practice applies to King's own writing life and to writing in general.
5. Think about your own formative experiences in academic writing. What types of writing have been required in school (any/all subjects) up to this point? Provide at least two concrete examples. What types of writing do you do best? What do you feel are your strengths as an academic writer? Where do you feel you need to improve?

### **Assignment #2: Choose Your Own Non-Fiction Book**

Please select a work of non-fiction that you want to read. Goodreads is a great resource; if you want to "browse" popular titles online you can use this link - <https://www.goodreads.com/shelf/show/non-fiction>.

As you read, look for quotations that seem significant, thought-provoking, or puzzling. Record your quotations and your reactions to them in a dialectical journal as described below. Please email Ms. Denninger or Ms. Wheeler ([rdenninger@StamfordCT.gov](mailto:rdenninger@StamfordCT.gov) or [cwheeler@StamfordCT.gov](mailto:cwheeler@StamfordCT.gov)) with any questions.

#### ***How to Set Up Your Dialectical Journal***

Your dialectical journal should be typed and set up as a T-chart with two columns: the left column must include a **direct quotation** from the text with a **page number citation**; the right column must include the **context** of

the quotation, or a brief summary of what was happening in the book where you found that quote, as well as a thoughtful **response** to the quotation. Your response can either...

- (Q) Question -- ask about something in the passage that is unclear
- (C) Connect -- make a connection to your life, the world, or another text
- (P) Predict -- anticipate what will occur based on what's in the passage
- (R) Reflect -- think deeply about what the passage means in a broad sense – not just to the characters in the story. What conclusions can you draw about the world or human nature?
- (E) Evaluate -- make a judgment about the character(s), their actions, or what the author is trying to say

**\*Please label each entry so that your teacher can easily identify which response style you choose.**

**Sample Dialectical Journal Entry Using *The Other Wes Moore***

Quotation	Response
<p>“When my mom first landed in the Bronx, she was just a small child, but she was a survivor and learned quickly. She studied other kids at school like an anthropologist, trying desperately to fit in. She started with the way that she spoke. She diligently listened to the radio from the time she was old enough to turn it on and mimicked what she heard. . . She jumped into the melting pot with both feet” (8).</p>	<p><b>Context:</b> The narrator, reflecting on his mother’s childhood, reveals the character of the woman who raised him.</p> <p><b>(R)</b> This passage reveals the deep-seated human desire for acceptance. When Wes Moore’s mother came to the United States from Jamaica she was only a child, but she understood the importance of fitting in. By using the word “anthropologist” to describe his mother at that time, Moore emphasizes how hard she, a Jamaican immigrant, worked to understand and imitate the ways and habits of American children. Additionally, the words “landed” and “jumped into the melting pot with both feet” express the eagerness with which his mother assimilated, never looking back. Moore seems to be indicating that fitting in often requires giving up one’s own individuality and heritage.</p>

↑

Page Number Citation

↑

Direct Quotation

↑

Context of Quote

↑

Thoughtful Response to Quote

**Grading Rubric:**

You should have a minimum of **fifteen (15) entries** from the book-- five (5) entries from the early chapters, five (5) entries from the middle chapters, and five (5) entries from the final chapters.

- Each entry will be worth **7 points**:
  - Direct quotation = 1 point
  - Context of quote = 2 points
  - Page number citation = 1 point
  - Response to quote = 3 points

**All entries must be typed into one word document and submitted to Turnitin.com by Friday, September 8th, 2017.**