

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

**PLEASE NOTE - All assignments should be completed using MLA format.**

You will be given tests and/or in class essays for each of the reading assignments. You should answer the assignments fully using specific examples and quotes from the text. Submit the assignments to [www.turnitin.com](http://www.turnitin.com) and hand them in on the first day of school. **Due on the first day of class in September.**

[www.turnitin.com](http://www.turnitin.com) **Class ID – Class Password** – (Capitalize the O)

Note: For turnitin purposes, each assignment should be saved as a separate document.

***On Writing* by Stephen King & Writing Assignments**

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.”

**Assignment 1** - 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 - 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.**

**Memoir Choice** - Choose ONE of the following texts to read:

*The Glass Castle* by Wells  
*Beautiful Boy* by Sheff  
*Into Thin Air* by Krakauer  
*Just Mercy* by Stevenson

**Assignment 3** - You are to answer the following questions. Each question should be a separate paragraph and should be numbered, and you should include quotes and specific

examples for support. **This assignment should be 2 to 3 pages in length (typed, double-spaced). It is not to exceed three full pages.** (See sample on my webpage - "Summer Assignment Sample Paper")

1. An author's voice and style can be created through the use of diction, syntax, punctuation, character development, dialogue, tone, and any other strategies the author uses. Discuss the author's voice and style in the memoir. (Some guiding questions - Is the language level appropriate? Does the style of writing have clarity? Is the material fairly easy to follow and understand? What is the author's tone, diction, and form?)
2. Although a memoir is a collection of an author's memories, the author usually has a purpose beyond just telling a story. What do you think is the author's purpose in writing his/her memoir? Support your answer with specific details and quotes from the text. Did the author achieve his/her purpose with you as the reader?
3. Did you enjoy the memoir? What was effective and what was ineffective about the text? Please be specific and back up your opinion with examples from the text.

#### **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 is on my webpage as a PDF labeled "Literary Terms Packet."

#### **Assignment 5 - Vocabulary Unit F Packets 1-9**

You should have covered vocabulary Unit F units 1-9 in your honors English classes this past year. Please note that you will be having unit tests on these packets. Refresh your knowledge of vocabulary over the summer.

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!

Mrs. Orosz

website - <https://sites.google.com/site/msorosz/home/ap-language>