Dear Parents:

Your child has requested **English III AP** for the upcoming school year. The purpose of this course is to offer promising students challenging work that will prepare them for collegiate reading and writing.

In Alvin Independent School District, Advanced Placement English courses are offered to eleventh and twelfth grade students. Upon successful completion of course work, students may take AP examinations administered each year in May, and if successful, they will be awarded college English credit accepted by most universities.

Pre-AP courses offered in grades 6-10 help students develop reading, writing, and thinking skills necessary for success in AP courses. Reading selections for these courses represent concepts and/or reading selections frequently cited on Advanced Placement examinations. Because both Pre-AP and AP courses include works that are challenging, students are required to complete a summer reading assignment.

Specifically, the English III AP summer reading assignment is designed to prepare students for the complexity of AP passages as well as to give them the skill set necessary to excel at writing in different modes of collegiate composition.

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For the summer of 2019, the reading assignment comes from the following text:


* As your child will need to annotate the essays, he/she will either need to purchase this book (ANY edition will work) or find each essay on the internet and print it out.

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Please encourage your child to complete this reading assignment in order to be prepared for an assessment at the beginning of the school year.

Thank you for your cooperation and continuing interest in your student’s education.

Sincerely,

Charlotte Liptack  
Secondary ELA Director of Curriculum  

Glen Russell  
Secondary ELA Curriculum Coordinator

| All AISD Summer reading titles have been given to the following local book vendor: |
| Barnes and Noble - Pearland and Webster |
Please sign and return to your student’s current English teacher.

My child and I have received notice of the summer assignment for English III AP and will comply. We understand that the completion date for this assignment is AUGUST 15, 2019, the first day of school.

In the fall of 2019, my child will attend:

_____ Alvin High School
_____ Manvel High School
_____ Shadow Creek High School

Parent Printed Name _________________________________________________
Parent Signature _____________________________________________________

Student Printed Name ________________________________________________
Student Signature ___________________________________________________

Date ______________________________________________________________

Current English Teacher’s Name _______________________________________
Current Campus ______________________________________________________
**Advanced Placement English III**

**Summer Reading Assignment**

**Objectives**

For this assignment, the student should strive to:

- Understand the author's claim
- Take a position on the author's claim
- Analyze the author's style and use of appeals

**Assignment Directions:**

- Read **one essay of your choice in each rhetorical mode category** and annotate it as you read. There are nine modes, so you will read and annotate nine essays.
- The categories and author/titles from the first edition (for example) are listed on pages 4 & 5 of this assignment sheet.

- After reading each essay, you will need to compose an analytical paragraph which includes the following:
  1. What is the author’s claim?
     * A claim is the author’s main point.
     * A claim must be argumentative. When you make a claim, you are arguing for a certain interpretation or understanding of your subject.
     * A good claim is specific. It makes a focused argument (MTV’s popularity is waning because it no longer plays music videos) rather than a general one (MTV stinks).
     * A claim can be substantiated with research, evidence, testimony, and academic reasoning.
  2. How does he/she support this claim? (rhetorical technique, rhetorical appeal, style, etc.)
  3. Is the author’s claim still valid today? (Prove or disprove by connecting it to a modern issue, practice, institution, or current event)
- Though the paragraph should be detailed, it should be answered concisely, in no more than 100 words.
- Create a Word document containing all nine essay responses, and clearly label each one.

On the **FIRST** day of class, students should bring their books/annotated essays, their printed word documents, and should be prepared to participate in a discussion over the reading.

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### 50 Essays: A Portable Anthology by Samuel Cohen

#### Table of Contents by Rhetorical Mode

**Narration**
- Maya Angelou, *Graduation* 9
- Langston Hughes, *Salvation* 155
- Maxine Hong Kingston, *No Name Woman* 190
- N. Scott Momaday, *The Way to Rainy Mountain* 265
- George Orwell, *Shooting an Elephant* 276
- David Sedaris, *Me Talk Pretty One Day* 340

**Description**
- Annie Dillard, *The Stunt Pilot* 87
- Linda Hogan, *Dwellings* 149
- Zora Neale Hurston, *How It Feels to Be Colored Me* 158
- Eudora Welty, *Listening* 436
- E. B. White, *Once More to the Lake* 444
- Virginia Woolf, *The Death of the Moth* 475

**Process Analysis**
- Joan Didion, *On Keeping a Notebook* 79
- Frederick Douglass, *Learning to Read and Write* 100
- Lars Eighner, *On Dumpster Diving* 107
- Malcolm X, *Learning to Read* 245
- Jessica Mitford, *Behind the Formaldehyde Curtain* 255

**Example**
- Barbara Lazear Ascher, *On Compassion* 35
- Thomas Jefferson, *The Declaration of Independence* 163
- Scott Russell Sanders, *The Inheritance of Tools* 331
- Sojourner Truth, *Ain't I a Woman?* 423
- James Q. Wilson, *Cars and Their Engines* 451

**Definition**
Gloria Anzaldúa, *How to Tame a Wild Tongue* 22
Eric Liu, *Notes of a Native Speaker* 205
Nancy Mairs, *On Being a Cripple* 231
Shelby Steele, *On Being Black and Middle Class* 366
Alice Walker, *In Search of Our Mother’s Gardens* 425

**Classification**
Judith Ortiz Cofer, *The Myth of the Latin Woman: I Just Met a Girl Named Maria* 71
Stephanie Ericsson, *The Ways We Lie* 120
Mike Rose, “I Just Wanna Be Average” 316
Leslie Marmon Silko, *Language and Literature from a Pueblo Indian Perspective* 346
Amy Tan, *Mother Tongue* 402
Deborah Tannen, *There Is No Unmarked Woman* 409

**Comparison/Contrast**
James Baldwin, *Notes of a Native Son* 39
Dave Barry, *Lost in the Kitchen* 61
Bharati Mukherjee, *Two Ways to Belong in America* 272
Plato, *The Allegory of the Cave* 284
Richard Rodriguez, *Aria: Memoir of a Bilingual Childhood* 292
Henry David Thoreau, *Where I Lived, and What I Lived For* 416

**Cause/Effect**
William F. Buckley Jr., *Why Don’t We Complain?* 64
Niccolò Machiavelli, *The Morals of the Prince* 221
Brent Staples, *Just Walk on By: Black Men and Public Space* 362
Marie Winn, *Television: The Plug-In Drug* 465

**Argument/Persuasion**
Stephen Jay Gould, *Women’s Brains* 130
Vicki Hearne, *What’s Wrong with Animal Rights?* 138
Martin Luther King Jr., *Letter from Birmingham Jail* 172
Abraham Lincoln, *The Gettysburg Address* 203
Elizabeth Cady Stanton, *Declaration of Sentiments and Resolutions* 358
Andrew Sillivan, *What Are Homosexuals For?* 380
Jonathan Swift, *A Modest Proposal* 393