

Summer reading assignment for AP Lang
Dimond High School
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Welcome to AP Language and Composition,

AP Language and Composition focuses primarily on the art of rhetoric, so it is important that you have some understanding of the current, and sometimes controversial, issues that we will be writing about and discussing in class. You need to become informed about local, state, and national issues. Read and listen to the news. Read and listen to the radio, including National Public Radio. Start reading newspapers and news magazines, both locally and from other major cities. You might even want to look at international news sources. Many newspapers are available to read on-line. Read the news and the opinion pages. You might want to start a clip file of articles and information that you find compelling. Prepare yourself. Be informed.

Summer reading includes two books. The first is *Angela's Ashes* by Frank McCourt. This is a memoir and won the Pulitzer Prize. My suggestion is you wait and read this one in August so it is fresh in your mind. Secondly, you will read *Woe is I* by Patricia T. O'Conner. This is a book that you should read and ponder in short doses. Plan to read a chapter a day. Make notes about what you understand and what you still need to understand.

Our discussions and writings on the reading will start on day one. There will not be a test on the first day of school, but if you don't have the reading done, you will be working incredibly hard that first week to catch up with your esteemed classmates.

Traditionally, AP Language students prefer to purchase books for the class. Owning books allows you to annotate directly on the text. Sticky notes also work. Title Wave Books has placed an order and plans to have plenty of copies on hand. You can also purchase used copies on Amazon, sometimes for less than a couple of dollars.

Feel free to e-mail if you have any questions. I hope you have a wonderful summer.