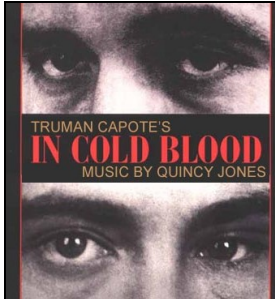


Remember in signing up for an AP course, you have chosen to challenge yourself and my expectations for your work are high. The class is patterned after a college level freshman English course. Therefore, I expect all of your work, including your summer reading work, to reflect a depth of thought and discussion. You



Malcolm Gladwell

will need to go for more than the minimum and show your ability to think critically and analyze literature.



Truman Capote

To be clear, your assignment involves reading **both** books. You will be assessed in class rather than having an assignment outside of class and will participate in graded discussion sessions, so it is imperative that you be knowledgeable of both texts.



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AP ENGLISH
LANGUAGE AND
COMPOSITION
SUMMER READING



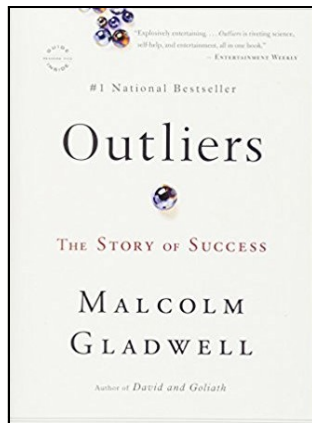
Outliers

Dacula High School
Language Arts Department

AP LANGUAGE SUMMER
READING SELECTIONS
AND ASSIGNMENTS

Outliers

by Malcolm Gladwell



Outliers by Malcolm Gladwell explores how and why people succeed.

“In this stunning new book, Malcolm Gladwell takes us on an intellectual journey through the world of “outliers”—the best and the brightest, the most famous and the most successful. He asks the question: what makes high-achievers different?

His answer is that we pay too much attention to what successful people are like, and too little attention to where they are from: that is, their culture, their family, their generation, and the idiosyncratic experiences of their upbringing. Along the way he explains the secrets of software billionaires, what it takes to be a great soccer player, why Asians are good at math, and

what made the Beatles the greatest rock band.

Brilliant and entertaining, *Outliers* is a landmark work that will simultaneously delight and illuminate.” (www.amazon.com)

Outliers Assignment

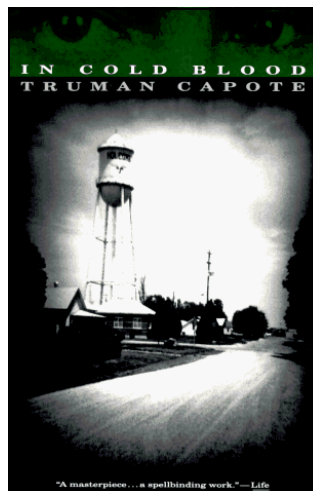
While reading Gladwell’s work, annotate the text and take notes as you feel necessary. You should mark passages that relate to

- What is an outlier? Their characteristics
- Truth and fiction about success
- Key quotations and examples related to main ideas and theme

We will complete an discussion style test on the book when you return to school during the first week. Annotate for main ideas, themes, literary language or rhetorical devices, key people.

In Cold Blood

by
Truman
Capote



In Cold Blood by Truman Capote is considered the first “true crime novel.”

“Until one morning in mid-November of 1959, few Americans—in fact, few Kansans—had ever heard of Holcomb. Like the waters of the river, like the motorists on the highway, and like the yellow trains

streaking down the Santa Fe tracks, drama in the shape of exceptional happenings, had never stopped there.” If all Truman Capote did was [popularize] a new genre—journalism written with the language and structure of literature—this “non-fiction novel” about the brutal slaying of the Clutter family by two would be robbers would be remembered as a trail-blazing experiment that has influenced countless writers. But Capote achieved more than that. He wrote a true masterpiece of creative non-fiction. The images of this tale continue to resonate in our minds: 16 year old Nancy Clutter teaching a friend how to bake a cherry pie, Dick Hickock’s black ‘49 Chevrolet sedan, Perry Smith’s Gibson guitar and his dreams of gold in a tropical paradise—the blood on the walls and the final “thud snap” of the rope-broken necks.

(www.amazon.com)

In Cold Blood Assignment

Again, I recommend that you annotate the text as you read. You will have a quotation identification and discussion question test on this book. Annotate for main ideas, themes, literary language or rhetorical devices, key people.

We will not begin the assessments on *ICB* until the week starting August 27th. However, do not procrastinate! This is a longer work. ***DO NOT TRY TO RELY ON SPARK NOTES and the like. YOU NEED TO READ THE TEXT.