

HOW DO I WRITE WELL?????

"You can never be an artist if your work comes without effort. That is the problem with modern ink from a bottle. You do not have to think. You simply write what is swimming on the top of your brain. And the top is nothing but pond scum, dead leaves, and mosquito spawn. But when you push an inkstick along an inkstone, you take the first step to cleansing your mind and your heart. You push and you ask yourself, What are my intentions? What is in my heart that matches my mind?"

From Amy Tan's The Bonesetter's Daughter

"Writing is easy: All you do is sit staring at a blank sheet of paper until drops of blood form on your forehead." Journalist Gene Fowler

"Be yourself. Above all, let who you are, what you are, what you believe, shine through every sentence you write, every piece you finish."

Author John Jakes

"To hold a pen is to be at war."
Voltaire

"The pen is the tongue of the mind."
Miguel de Cervantes

"You can't wait for inspiration, you have to go after it with a club."
Jack London



"Readers may be divided into four classes:

Sponges, who absorb all that they read and return it in nearly the same state, only a little dirtied.

Sand-glasses, who retain nothing and are content to get through a book for the sake of getting through the time.

Strain-bags, who retain merely the dregs of what they read.

Mogul diamonds, equally rare and valuable, who profit by what they read, and enable others to profit by it also"

Samuel Taylor Coleridge

WHAT KIND OF READER DO YOU WANT TO BE?

With so much reading ahead of you, the temptation might be to speed up. But in fact it's essential to slow down and read every word. One important thing that can be learned by reading slowly is the seemingly obvious but oddly underappreciated fact that language is the medium we use in much the same way a composer uses notes, the way a painter uses paint. . . . it's surprising how easily we lose sight of the fact that words are the raw material out of which literature is crafted.

Every page was once a blank page, just as every word that appears on it now was not always there, but instead reflects the final result of countless large and small deliberations. All the elements of good writing depend on the writer's skill in choosing one word instead

of another. And what grabs and keeps our interest has everything to do with those choices.



AP LITERATURE AND COMPOSITION

SUMMER READING 2018



"But words are things, and a small drop of ink, falling like dew upon a thought, produces that which makes thousands, perhaps millions, think."

Lord Byron

DANTE'S INFERNO
JOHN CIARDI TRANSLATION

1. **Read** Dante Aligheri's epic poem *Dante's Inferno*. Many of you may have read **excerpts** from *Dante's Inferno*, but now is the time to immerse yourself completely in Dante's grotesque and horrifying world of sin and punishment. There are so many direct and indirect allusions to Dante's masterpiece that reading it in its entirety is a must for AP students.
2. Please **read** the translation by **John Ciardi** so that our page references are the same when we discuss the piece. We have placed a copy of the Dante brochure on the school summer reading website, which will give you more information before you read, but **your annotation should include**: epic similes, mythological references, the change in the relationship between Dante and Virgil, and a clear understanding of how the punishment reflects the sin.
2. **Complete** the data sheet specific to *Dante's Inferno* found on the Dacula High School web site/summer reading, which will be due the first day of school.

1984

BY GEORGE ORWELL

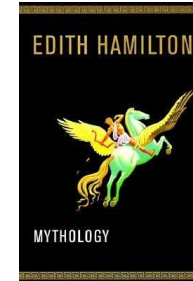
If ever there was a dystopian novel which has relevance today, it is **1984**.

Please note, there is a section in the middle of the novel entitled "THE THEORY AND PRACTICE OF OLIGARCHICAL COLLECTIVISM" by Emmanuel Goldstein which appears in Part 2 at approx. pg. 184—**YOU DO NOT HAVE TO READ THIS SECTION**. Here Winston learns about the creation of the party. If you love government, it will interest you! Otherwise you can omit this section of the novel.

Complete the data sheet on the Dacula High School web site/summer reading, which will be due the first day of school.



(OPTIONAL)
EDITH HAMILTON'S
MYTHOLOGY



In addition to having a working knowledge of the stories and the heroes of *The Odyssey* and *The Illiad*, having knowledge of Greek mythology as a whole will be a critical component in your study of literature next year. Allusions to the Greek gods and goddesses, the myths of the beginnings of the earth and mankind, and stories of origin in mythology abound in literature. Edith Hamilton's Mythology is the most user-friendly compendium of mythology for students looking for basic information and background.

Being familiar with people, places, gods, goddesses, and creatures from Greek mythology will give you a much better understanding of *Dante's Inferno*. To thoroughly understand *Dante's Inferno*, You may want to get a copy of this book as a refer-

DO NOT PLAGIARIZE—
NO OUTSIDE SOURCES ARE
NECESSARY TO COMPLETE
THESE ASSIGNMENTS—
ONLY YOUR BOOK AND
YOUR BRAIN!!! PLAGIARIZ-
ING ALSO INCLUDES COPY-
ING FROM ANOTHER STU-
DENT—DON'T DO
IT!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!