



BRENTWOOD ACADEMY

Summer Reading List 2020: AP Language and Composition

"Books are men of higher stature, the only men that speak aloud for future times to hear."
-E.S. Barrett

A Rationale for Summer Reading

- To generate interest and pleasure in reading that enriches literary and philosophical experience
- To use time not available during the school year to read classics that expand cultural literacy
- To prepare for thoughtful discussion and writing beginning the first day of class
- To encourage a lifelong love of reading

Required Text *Note: It is important that you purchase the editions indicated by the ISBNs.*

<i>Man's Search for Meaning</i>	Viktor E. Frankl	ISBN- 978-0-8070-1429-5
<i>On Writing</i>	Stephen King	ISBN-13: 978-1439156810

Assignment *Man's Search for Meaning* by Viktor E. Frankl

Please read and annotate *Man's Search for Meaning* by Viktor E. Frankl. You will need to focus on Frankl's coping mechanisms for survival in the concentration camp. You will have a 20 question test, and you will write an essay on the second day of class. Please be prepared.

Assignment *On Writing* by Stephen King

King's book, which is subtitled *A Memoir of the Craft*, provides an excellent response to question: "Did the author mean to do that?" As King states in the introduction to this book, "What follows is an attempt to put down, briefly and simply, how I came to the craft, what I know about it now, and how it's done" (King xv). In this book, you will learn that writers do indeed make deliberate choices about diction, syntax, details, and other literary elements as they compose their work. *On Writing* is divided into four sections: C.V., Toolbox, On Writing, and On Living. Your assignment will, likewise, be divided into four sections. For each task below, please include proper MLA documentation and citation for the passages discussed. These must be typed (Times New Roman 12 pt. font, double spaced).

Task #1 C.V.

This is a non-fiction text, but it often reads like a novel. To tell his story, King uses literary elements and techniques (i.e. imagery, dialogue, figurative language), which most non-AP students often associate with fictional pieces. Identify three passages in which King uses such elements/techniques effectively. Explain the elements/techniques he uses and why they are effective.

Task #2 Toolbox

Create a writer's toolbox for yourself. Identify seven rules of writing that King discusses (be certain to include the page number), which you think are important or interesting. As you select each rule, think about your own strengths and weaknesses as a writer. Please number your selections 1-7. Then add an additional seven rules of writing which you have either practiced or been taught throughout your school career. These do not have to be addressed in the book—these “rules” are based on your experience as a student. Example: Don't begin a sentence with “and.”

Task #3 On Writing

How does King feel about writing? How do you know? Choose three key passages from this section in which King defines writing, either directly or figuratively. In your own words, restate King's point about writing in the passage and why you think this point is interesting or important.

Task #4 On Living: A Postscript

This task does not pertain to just this section of the book. Rather, explain your opinion of King as both a writer and a person. Would you consider reading one of his books now, for example? (If you have read his books prior to this assignment, has your opinion of the author changed? If so, how?) What do you think King's purpose was in writing this book? Support your answers to both prompts with evidence from the text.

Please remember the BA English Department policy:

Do not consult internet novel guides, any other electronic or printed summaries, or movies; read the texts themselves.

