Students enrolled in AP English 11 for the 2018-2019 school-year are required to complete the following assignments. Both assignments are due on the first day of class. Ten (10) points will be deducted each day the assignment is late. If you have any questions please email me at cristina.foss@cpschools.com.

**Assignment 1: Short-Form Reading**

Read and annotate all five (5) of the following essays:

1. Cause and Effect: “Brute Neighbors” by Henry David Thoreau  
   [https://drive.google.com/file/d/0B9PdrYSk5esMmIwY2ZIYjYmJkZS00NDMzLWFmMzEtNTRjNzNiOWFjYzUw/view](https://drive.google.com/file/d/0B9PdrYSk5esMmIwY2ZIYjYmJkZS00NDMzLWFmMzEtNTRjNzNiOWFjYzUw/view)

2. Comparison and Contrast: “Between the Sexes, a Great Divide” by Anna Quindlen  

3. Description: “On Going Home” by Joan Didion  
   [https://ptfaculty.gordonstate.edu/msilverman/didion.%20on%20going%20home.pdf](https://ptfaculty.gordonstate.edu/msilverman/didion.%20on%20going%20home.pdf)

4. Exemplification: “The Name is Mine” by Anna Quindlen  
   [http://lindblomeagles.org/ourpages/auto/2013/9/5/54859672/The%20Name%20is%20Mine.pdf](http://lindblomeagles.org/ourpages/auto/2013/9/5/54859672/The%20Name%20is%20Mine.pdf)

5. Narration: “More Room” by Judith Ortiz Cofer  

*If these links no longer work, try looking for the essay on Google.*

Annotating is simply writing on text, or marking your thoughts on whatever you’re reading. As you read, complete the following tasks.

A. **Underlining/Highlighting:** You should underline or highlight significant sentences/passages, including those that impact the theme.

B. **Question Marks/Written Questions:** Use a question mark to note things you wish clarification on. In the margin, write a question that the section or passage makes you think about. You can also write a question regarding a possible connection to something else you think about after reading the passage.

C. **Vocabulary:** You can mark unfamiliar vocabulary in a variety of ways. Circle it, underline it, highlight it. The important thing is to notice it. Either make sense of it from the text or look it up. A word may indeed change the impact or meaning of a passage.

D. **Literary Techniques:** Consider how the author uses symbols, similes, metaphors, word choice, or other literary features to enhance the work. Also, consider how the author uses organization, syntax, or repetition to convey meaning.

After you have printed your copies of these five (5) essays and annotated them, put them in a pocket folder or manila folder to be submitted on the first day of class. Your annotations will be counted as a test grade and will be assessed for thoroughness, depth of detail, and critical awareness.
Assignment 2: Long-Form Reading

Read **In Cold Blood by Truman Capote**, which can be found in bookstores, libraries, and at online used book sites (Amazon, Abe’s Books, or Powell’s Books).

Answer the attached questions and prepare for a multiple choice and an essay test on the novel.

**In Cold Blood Reading Questions**

_Directions: Answer the following questions in complete sentence. You must include a page number that supports your response. Each question is worth 2 points. The assignment as a whole is weighted as an assessment grade._

**The Last to See Them Alive**
1. What effect is achieved through the use of the simile comparing grain elevators to Greek temples? (Page 13)
2. What is the purpose of the opening section of the text ending with “and as strangers”? What details are discussed and why? (Page 11)
3. According to the text, what is Mr. Clutter’s only reason for “disquiet” in his life? (Page 10)
4. What aspect of River Valley Farm is Mr. Clutter’s pride and joy? (Page 10)
5. How do the narrative voice and the sentence structure of the text change when the story shifts from descriptions of the Clutter family to descriptions of Dick Hickock and Perry Smith? (Page 10)
6. How do comparisons between Perry’s physique on the one hand and images of weightlifters and jockeys on the other hand help establish Perry’s physical challenges? (Page 10)
7. How does Perry’s obsession with foreign countries and sunken treasures symbolize his social status as an outcast? (Page 11)
8. What is the purpose of introducing the Ashida family and their relationship to the Clutters? (Page 11)
9. What is the most significant element of Perry and Dick’s big “score”? What does their agreement on this element foreshadow? (Page 11)
10. What do Holcomb citizens mean when they describe Kenyon as a boy who “lives in a world of his own”? (Page 11)
11. What is the biggest challenge to the friendship between Perry Smith and Willie-Jay? (Page 11)
12. What is the primary motivation behind Perry’s decision to meet with Dick and become a part of the big “score”? (Page 11)
13. What is Dick’s number one motivation for persuading Perry to become part of his plan to rob the Clutter home? (Page 11)
14. As the Holcomb community gathers at Hartman’s Café, what is the initial speculation about the killer or killers? (Page 11)
15. How does initial speculation about the murders change the atmosphere within the Holcomb community? (Page 11)

**Persons Unknown**
16. What aspects of the crime scene as observed by Al Dewey examining photographs foreshadow the eventual capture of the suspects? (Page 12)
17. How do the opening pages of this section serve to establish _In Cold Blood_ as an important forerunner of the True Crime genre? (Page 12)
18. What effect is achieved through the simile that likens Dick’s confidence to a “kite that needed reeling in”? (Page 12)
19. What does Susan Kidwell find most disturbing about her visit to the funeral parlor? Why? (Page 12)
20. What is significant about the way Dick gains the store clerk’s confidence when he attempts to pay with a check? How is this ironic? (Page 12)
21. What conclusion does Alvin Dewey draw about the murderers when he studies the crime scene photos once again? What leads him to his conclusion? (Page 12)
22. What does Perry’s behavior at the beach and swimming pool reveal about his character?
23. Why does Capote include the lengthy letter written by Perry’s father? What theme does the letter reinforce?
24. What is Perry’s sister’s motivation for suggesting that “we all were very adaptable” in her letter?
25. How are police investigators able to determine the order in which the Clutter family members were murdered?
26. How are Dick and Perry planning to return to the United States? What does their plan reveal about their state of mind following the Clutter murders?

**Answer**

27. What event in the opening pages of the section “Answer” turns the investigation around?
28. Why might Dick’s father propose that Dick “wasn’t the same boy” after he injured his head in a car accident?
29. According to Mr. Hickock, what was unusual about Dick when he returned from his alleged trip to Fort Scott? Why is this observation significant?
30. What incident occurs on the road from Mexico to the United States that Perry calls a “goddam miracle”?
31. What does the nickname Perry has given himself reveal about his character and his self-image?
32. According to Mrs. Johnson, what paradox exists in Perry’s character?
33. How is investigator Dewey able to conceal a possible breakthrough in the case from the general public? Why does he consider it to be so important to keep new details of the case hidden?
34. Why is Perry disturbed by a newspaper account he reads when he and Dick arrive in Miami, Florida?
35. To what extent does Dick’s sexuality contribute to his status as a societal outsider? What is Perry’s reaction to Dick’s sexuality?
36. What tone characterizes Perry’s attitude when he is being interrogated by police after being apprehended in Las Vegas?
37. According to Perry, what is his only regret about the night of the murders?

**The Corner**

38. What is Mrs. Meier’s first impression of Perry Smith?
39. What changes does Perry want to make to his initial statement to police? What is his motivation for making the changes? What does this suggest about his character?
40. What is significant about Perry’s reaction to the letter written by Don Cullivan?
41. What is the symbolic significance of the big yellow bird?
42. According to Dick’s written statement composed in prison for his psychiatrist, what ultimately was Dick’s motivation for invading the Clutter place?
43. For what purpose does Capote include Dr. Jones’s lengthy report, even though it was not admitted into evidence during the trial?
44. Why does Perry go on a hunger strike? Why does he eventually change his mind and end his hunger strike?
45. What strategy does Dick pursue in order to appeal his conviction?
46. What effect is achieved by the alliteration in the closing sentence?

**General Discussion Questions**

47. What is the role of the author/narrator in *In Cold Blood*?
48. What are the characteristics of the non-fiction novel? How does Capote realize the principles of the non-fiction novel?
49. What is the significance of the American Dream in the novel?
50. Why does the text discuss the murders and reveal the identities of the perpetrators right in the beginning of the narrative?