

AP Language and Composition Summer Reading Assignment 2009

Welcome to AP English! You will need to read and annotate two books for summer reading. The annotations should be focused on the author's style. (If you don't know what annotating looks like or what style is- find out. A good place to go for annotation instruction is <http://radicalacademy.com/adlermarkabook.htm>.) You must have your own copies of these books and have them in class on the first day of school. They are:

1. William Zinsser's *On Writing Well*
2. James McBride's *The Color of Water*

Written Component #1: You will be revising one of your essays from sophomore English as a summer writing assignment. The only essay that I will not accept for the assignment is a fictional piece. After reading and annotating Zinsser's *OWW*, you will need to revise your original draft using his advice. Please make changes on the original draft and be prepared to publish (share with me and your class) on the first full day of class in August. Part of the publishing process will involve sharing your revision process, and how you used Zinsser's suggestions as a guide. To receive credit for this section of summer reading assignment you **MUST** turn in the original draft of your essay with revision marks and the final version. If there are more than two drafts (which may be advantageous), you need to turn in all of them. Make sure there is an obvious method to your revision, and that it is based on Zinsser's book. Put all copies in a folder with your name visible on the outside of the folder.

Written Component #2: You will also be keeping a journal while reading *The Color of Water*. The journal should be typed and sent as an attachment to me (sarah1@wcs.edu) **NO LATER** than August 20th. If you don't have access to a computer, or have an incompatible program, drop your assignment by the front office during open hours over the summer. There will be no late grades given, so make sure you get it to me on or before that date. While reading, please choose one quote per chapter that you think exemplifies McBride's style and/or purpose for writing. Type the quote or passage and then write a short response for each. The response should include your thoughts on his diction, syntax, and tone. Also, you should comment on how those elements achieve an overall theme or purpose for the book or particular chapter.

Please do not hesitate to email me with any concerns or questions as you work through these assignments.