

# AP Literature & Composition 2023 Summer Assignment

Mr. Davis & Mr. Lang

## 1. Personal Poetry “Mini-Anthology”

Collect, read, and ANNOTATE 6 poems you regard as significant to YOU. Your selections must have coherence-- the pieces must have a common thread. That thread revolves solely around you: how do all the poems define you? Heal you? Describe you? Motivate you, etc.? Imagine being able to hand this anthology over to a stranger, who, upon reading it, would know you.

- **6 poems**, any structure. Include at least one poem from each of the following centuries: 19th, 20th, and 21st. ALL poems must be from a published & printed source, i.e., collected works, anthologies, literary magazines.
- **Only one title per poet**—this assignment is designed to allow you a broad reading experience.
- The pieces you choose should exude literary merit. But they must also have a commonality which you explain. Thus, both the act of selecting and your explanation give it **coherence**.
- Include a **typed introduction** to your anthology that clearly explains the poems’ coherence and connection to you. This is your opportunity to explain both your selections and yourself to a reader. How do YOU and your chosen poems connect, and why? This introduction should be **no shorter than one full page and no longer than two full pages. MLA format**.
- **Include copies of all your selected poems, ANNOTATED clearly and thoroughly.** You may annotate any way you choose but pay attention to devices and/or techniques—the artifacts of language and structure—that affect meaning and make meaning for YOU.
- Include at the end of your anthology an **MLA works cited page** documenting your sources for all selected poems.

## 2. College Application Essay

The essay topics below have been used by major colleges and universities over the past several years to assist them in determining which applicants to admit. Select any one of the topics to use for a two-page typed essay, MLA format (including FULL header and heading). Please include the prompt to which you are responding as the title on page one. Hard copies only...you have all summer so don't ask to print when you come to school. This essay is due on day one.

1. Describe the world you come from—for example, your family, community, or school—and tell us how this world has shaped your dreams and aspirations.
2. Tell us about a personal quality, talent, accomplishment, contribution, or experience that is important to you. What about this quality or accomplishment makes you proud and how does it reflect who you are?
3. Tell us about a conversation you've had that changed your perspective or was otherwise meaningful to you.
4. Has there been a time when an idea or belief of yours was questioned? How did you respond? What were the rewards?
5. If you could go back and change one day in your life, what would you change and why?
6. The lessons we take from obstacles we encounter can be fundamental to later success. Recount a time when you faced a challenge, setback, or failure. How did it affect you, and what did you learn from the experience?
7. Discuss the most important piece of advice you have ever received and explain its effect on your life.
8. Tell us how a particular book, play, film, piece of music, dance performance, scientific theory or experiment, or work of art has influenced you. If you choose a novel, film, or play, assume we know the plot.
9. **Optional Topic:** Select any other college entrance essay topic from a current college application.

**This assignment will be collected on the first day of class.**