

2026-2027 AP Language and Composition Summer Reading Assignment

Directions: You will be reading 10 essays chosen specifically for you from the *50 Essays a Portable Anthology*. The essays can be found in the book (you can check out from the school library prior to leaving for summer, or you can click on the links and access the text online.

When you return to school in August, you will have timed assignments in class to complete about the 10 essays. You will not have time to read them during the class period, so we strongly recommend carefully reading and annotating them over the summer.

Please note: “Not knowing” about the assignment, changing your mind about what classes you will be taking, not having internet access, “access to the book,” or changing school districts will not excuse you from these readings. You will still be responsible for all readings and assignments associated with them.

ESSAY 1: Jen Gann, *Wrongful Birth* (175)

<https://docs.google.com/document/d/1ieAw8sh0s7HoKyz7RlSt0rsiDDHY3SqBzMntBh2920o/e/dit?usp=sharing>

ESSAY 2: Nancy Mairs, *On Being a Cripple* (333)

<https://drive.google.com/file/d/110SjunwUdK7XzR0KWcTcfUhtN8n4Vz7A/view?usp=sharing>

Essay 3: *Crying in H Mart* by Michelle Zauner (515)

<https://drive.google.com/file/d/1nQFHj0Fl3De2nXij1JeTL7S3YzQ74UOQ/view?usp=sharing>

(Chapter 1)

Essay 4: Danny Chau, *The Burning Desire for Hot Chicken* (95)

https://docs.google.com/document/d/1XWBqfeWOKqM8mnJMRKh2yG_XTo6xR5iFhSd6CryKmgA/edit?usp=sharing

Essay 5: Henry David Thoreau, *Civil Disobedience* (451)

chrome-extension://efaidnbmnnnibpcajpcglclefindmkaj/<https://drive.google.com/file/d/1w29qHPddHXmB0kxFXNibIMEW2aM2prTC/view?usp=sharing>

Essay 6: George Orwell, *Shooting an Elephant* (379)

<https://docs.google.com/document/d/1e45rZkXqOANdGHhcR2GPRtir3zKd1ilzIMdUJC92zqg/edit?usp=sharing>

Essay 7: David Sedaris, *I Like Guys* (418)

<https://drive.google.com/file/d/1rDaSRmADm-8luFKokN17fUWwkdfwy6CL/view?usp=sharing>

Essay 8: Tyranny of Time

https://docs.google.com/document/d/1LJGU_JTIWDAUJFXwcqL-qRf2LZdGg_CjX1q_SWTMO9A/edit?usp=sharing

by **Joe Zadeh** Follow the assignment linked here.

Essay 9: There, There

<https://docs.google.com/document/d/1ER2Vc09w2F757tZ2LSdOLtY6F3Y6PQOTeBAkNU1vmzg/edit?usp=sharing>

Essay 10: Brent Staples, "Just Walk On By: Black Men and Public Space"

<https://drive.google.com/file/d/1J5SP7DoA0ExEzL-X6BmZvF3bql2AfS0-/view?usp=sharing>