2023-2024 Summer Reading Assignments AP English Language and Composition

Note: Read BOTH books!!

The Picture of Dorian Gray by Oscar Wilde	Why has this book been chosen for AP Lang?	While <i>The Picture of Dorian Gray</i> can be read purely for enjoyment, this nineteenth-century book invites readers into questions about the nature of influence, the distinction between aestheticism and hedonism, as well as the relationship between art and morality. This book introduces students to the kind of close reading and analysis that they will use throughout the class.
	What should students do with the book before they return to school?	Students should engage in close reading by noting the ideas indicated above (the nature of influence, the distinction between aestheticism and hedonism, the relationship between art and morality), attending to Dorian's story arc, and marking passages of interest with questions and comments.
	How will this book be used and assessed <i>after</i> school begins?	Upon return in the fall, students can expect an essay test on the second or third day of class, as well as related discussions and assignments throughout the first and second cycles as we shift from literature to nonfiction and rhetorical analysis.
On Writing Well by William Zinsser On Writing Well Tense Get as Book Redet William Zinsser Harper Perennial ISBN: 9780060891541	Why has this book been chosen for AP Lang?	William Zinsser's nonfiction book offers concrete suggestions to improve written expression in various genres. This book will help students identify areas in their own writing that they wish to target.
	What should students do with the book before they return to school?	 Read the Introduction as well as Chs. 1-8; Ch. 10 and Chap. 20. Select an additional chapter from Chs. 12-18 or Ch. 24 to read and type one page of notes identifying Zinsser's advice specific to that genre. These notes should blend summary/paraphrase, direct quotes, and bullet points (either single space or double space is fine)
		3. Create an original one-page sample of the type of writing discussed in the additional chapter you've chosen to read. The title of your sample should be the chapter number and the chapter title from Zinsser's book. For this part of the assignment, please use 1.5 spacing rather than double-spacing.
		The notes and the paper should be printed out (not handwritten) to submit by the second day of class. Be sure to include your name, the chapter number, and the chapter title at the top of both your notes AND the sample.
	How will this book be used and assessed <i>after</i> school begins?	 The notes AND the paper should be printed to submit by the second day of class. This paper will be graded based on the following criteria: adherence to directions the degree to which the paper follows Zinsser's advice for the genre you've chosen precise diction, fluent syntax, and well-incorporated details careful proofreading and editing This book will launch our full-year exploration of effective writing.