

## **SHS AP LITERATURE (12) AND ENGLISH UCONN ECE (12) SUMMER READING: 2019**

Both of the following assignments are due on the first day of class when you return to school in August. You must bring in printed copies and have the files digitally available to upload to Turnitin.com.

### **1) Essay: *The Elements of Style* by William Strunk and E.B. White**

Purchase *The Elements of Style: Classic Edition (2018): With Editor's Notes, New Chapters & Study Guide* by author William Strunk Jr. and edited by Richard De A'Morelli. If you cannot purchase the book, here is a link to an older edition of the text:

<http://www.gutenberg.org/files/37134/37134-h/37134-h.htm>

Read the entire book. Since this is a book about grammar, give yourself plenty of time to read it so that the ideas can marinate. After you read, write a 2–3 page essay assessment of your own writing based on your reading of *Elements of Style*. Please note we will refer back to this text all year.

Your essay must be typed, double-spaced, in Times New Roman 12 point font, using proper MLA format and citation. Each body paragraph must include textual evidence from *Elements of Style*. You must have a minimum of five quotations in your essay.

#### **Topics you must consider:**

- Your use of grammar, usage, and style
- Your use of structure and organization
- The kind of writing in which you have most success
- The kind of writing in which you have the most difficulty
- Ways to improve your style
- Ways to strengthen your writing

Conclude the essay by expressing what you hope to improve in your writing this year.

## **AND**

### **2) Dialectical Journal: *Americanah* by Chimamanda Ngozi Adichie**

Read *Americanah* by Chimamanda Ngozi Adichie and keep a dialectical journal. This typed dialectical journal allows you, the reader, to respond to and make sense of a text. For this particular assignment, we would like you to find those images, sentences, paragraphs that trace the main character's sense of identity and culture throughout the novel.

You must have a minimum of fifteen (15) entries from the book— five (5) entries from the early chapters, five (5) entries from the middle chapters, and five (5) entries from the final chapters.

**continued**

**Format:**

Each selection you make should bring you closer to understanding how Adichie makes her meaning. At times your text might illustrate some of Adichie's figurative language, keeping in mind the overarching focus of tracing the main character's sense of identity and culture.

1. Divide your document in half, lengthwise, into two columns
2. Type the text on the left-hand side and your comments on the right-hand side of every page.
3. Use care in your writing — these entries are not “rough” drafts, but final products.
4. Place the page number of the text in parenthesis at the end of each passage
5. Make sure your papers are printed out and identified by name, class period and date.