

Summer Reading: Advanced Placement Language

In Cold Blood, Truman Capote

We will be exploring the author's purpose and what he uses (rhetorical devices, writing style, etc.) to achieve that purpose.

You will need to take notes the book. For this you may use a double entry journal, or whatever suits you best. If you own the copy of the book, you may certainly write in the book, but you will need a way to quickly find specific passages in the texts.

When taking notes, be sure to write down page numbers so you may easily reference them.

**STUDENTS WILL NEED TO BRING THE BOOK and NOTES
TO CLASS ON THE FIRST DAY OF SCHOOL.**

ASSIGNMENT:

In Cold Blood: As you read, remember, this is a non-fiction book about a true event. **(1)** take notes on the characters involved in the story. Who does Capote seem to focus on? What information does he provide about the characters? Does Capote appear to have a bias to any particular characters? Does he leave you with questions about others? Concentrate on Perry Smith, Richard (Dick) Hickock, Bobby Rupp, Alvin Dewey. *Don't ignore the other characters, though.* **(2)** Part of your notes should include how you feel about the characters in the story and on what event, actions, descriptions you base these feelings. Do you find that your feelings change one way or the other through the story? **(3)** On a separate sheet, write down three specific passages (with page numbers), and explain how they shaped your opinion on the way Truman Capote treats the characters and the topic of the story.

****Your work will be assessed on how well it reflects your abilities as an AP Language student. Notes and entries must be complete, demonstrating effort in analysis and thought.**