

In addition to reading and answering questions on Wuthering Heights and All the Pretty Horses, you must write your COLLEGE ESSAY.

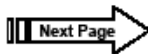
When you return in September, I will administer a test on the summer readings. Then, we will focus on your college essays, giving you an opportunity to revise, edit and rewrite your essays.

Below I have printed a section from the COMMON APPLICATION which provides topics for your selection. Develop one of the topics and submit this essay on the first day of school.

Personal Essay

Please write an essay (250 words minimum) on a topic of your choice or on one of the options listed below. **Please indicate your topic by checking the appropriate box.** This personal essay helps us become acquainted with you as a person and student, apart from courses, grades, test scores, and other objective data. It will also demonstrate your ability to organize your thoughts and express yourself.

- 1. Evaluate a significant experience, achievement, risk you have taken, or ethical dilemma you have faced and its impact on you.
- 2. Discuss some issue of personal, local, national, or international concern and its importance to you.
- 3. Indicate a person who has had a significant influence on you, and describe that influence.
- 4. Describe a character in fiction, a historical figure, or a creative work (as in art, music, science, etc.) that has had an influence on you, and explain that influence.
- 5. A range of academic interests, personal perspectives, and life experiences adds much to the educational mix. Given your personal background, describe an experience that illustrates what you would bring to the diversity in a college community, or an encounter that demonstrated the importance of diversity to you.
- 6. Topic of your choice.



The novels I am assigning this summer are Cormac McCarthy's All the Pretty Horses and Emily Bronte's Wuthering Heights.

Assignment:

1. Read both works thoroughly. Enjoy them. Read them at the beginning of the summer and, then, read them both again at the end of August. The second reading should be a close reading. Since you know the story already, the second reading gives you an opportunity for analysis. Your goal is study closely the writer's craft.

Consider the following: To understand tone is to understand meaning. If you misunderstood the author's tone, you have misunderstood the author's meaning.

Carefully look at diction, imagery, syntax, figurative language, symbols and motifs the author uses and develops in order to set tone.

2. For All the Pretty Horses find and identify 2 passages that remind you of Huck Finn. Take notes on the selections you have made. Focus on what elements in them seem somehow connected to Huck Finn and explain why.
3. Answer the following questions for Wuthering Heights carefully. You are expected to cite the novel to support your answers.

Questions:

1. In the first two chapters, Lockwood tries to read the residents of Wuthering Heights, trying to decipher their relationships and personalities, etc. Focusing on two of these attempts, consider what Lockwood's perceptions suggest about his abilities to read a situation. Given that he is the narrator, how does the opening set us up as readers of the novel?
2. What is the effect of filtering Heathcliff and Catherine's story through Lockwood's and Nelly Dean's accounts?
3. Analyze the scene which precedes the ghost's arrival at the casement window. Why does the ghost appear to Lockwood and not to Heathcliff?
4. How do each of the members of the family respond to Heathcliff when he first enters into Earnshaw family? Describe his early relationship with Mr. Earnshaw, Catherine and Hindley.
5. Why are there so many eruptions of violence in the novel? What do these repetitions of violence suggest? Discuss two scenes in detail.
6. Consider all the triangulated relationships in the novel. What do they suggest about the structure of desire?
7. How does the isolation and location of the novel's northern Yorkshire setting influence the tone and events of the story? What are the symbolic elements of tone and in the story?
8. What are the symbolic elements to the descriptions of the houses and their landscapes?