

**AP English Language and Composition**  
**REQUIRED Summer Reading Assignment**  
***In Cold Blood* by Truman Capote**

In AP English Language and Composition, you will learn how to analyze the manner in which texts are written. This **REQUIRED** assignment will give you an idea of how we will be analyzing various texts throughout the year.

**All work must be TYPED in MLA format, 12-pt font, and double spaced.**

- I. The following are various terms you may or may not be familiar with; all are defined. For ***In Cold Blood***, you must analyze the text for each of the following:
  - A. **Tone** – Similar to mood, tone describes the author’s attitude toward his material, the audience, or both. Considering how a work would sound if it were read aloud can help in identifying an author’s tone. Some words describing tone are playful, sarcastic, humorous, formal, ornate, sardonic, somber, etc.
  - B. **Diction** – Related to style, diction refers to the writer’s word choices, especially with regard to their correctness, clearness, or effectiveness. You should be able to describe an author’s diction (for example, formal or informal, ornate, or plain) and understand the ways in which diction can complement the author’s purpose. Diction, combined with syntax, figurative language, literary devices, etc., comprises an author’s style.
- II. After reading ***In Cold Blood***, answer the following questions (150 – 200 words EACH).
  - A. What is the tone of the first part – “The Last to See Them Alive” and explain (using words to describe the tone and using specific lines from the book).
  - B. What is the tone of the third part – “Answer” and explain (using words to describe the tone and using specific lines from the book).
  - C. Describe and explain (what type of diction it is and why it is that way) the diction of Perry using specific lines from the novel (cite at least 2 examples).
  - D. Describe and explain (what type of diction it is and why it is that way) the diction of Perry’s sister using specific lines from the novel (cite at least 2 examples).

**ALL WORK IS TO BE SUBMITTED WITH A COVER PAGE WITHIN THE FIRST TWO WEEKS OF THE NEW SCHOOL YEAR TO THE AP LANGUAGE & COMPOSITION TEACHER.**