

Summer Reading for students entering Creative Writing

In the second half of the summer, read the memoir *On Writing* by Stephen King. Then, compose a piece of short fiction of at least 3 pages in that uses at least two of King's suggestions for improving your writing. Make use of these tools in any manner that suits your story. Your piece should be representative of your writing style and may be about any topic that interests you.

Then, compose a brief reflection (1-2 pages) in which you describe the way you incorporated King's suggestions into your writing and assess their overall usefulness. Your reflection should exhibit a clear understanding of both King's tools and your own writing style. Be specific; refer to both your original story and *On Writing*.

Both the story and the reflection are due on the first day of class. This assignment will provide me with a sample of your writing and let me know on which skills we should focus to ensure that yours is a successful year.

Completion of this assignment provides you the opportunity to earn up to four points of extra credit on your first marking period grade. If, for example, you earn a 3 on this paper and an 87 for the first marking period, your first marking period grade would be a 90.

If you have any questions, please contact me at sfreese@hvrhs.org

Enjoy your reading and writing!

Ms. Freese