

# Wirthy English

Your source for links, tips, suggestions, assignments, and more related to Senior English at Searsport District High School.

THURSDAY, NOVEMBER 08, 2007

## Topics for Debate & Persuasive Essays

Sites which list topics and links include:

[ProCon.org](#)

[Questia.com](#)

A useful tool for creating an outline for your topic is at

[Readwritethink.org](#)

Tips for writing an essay are at

[Essayinfo.com/](#)

Posted by waterwalker at 8:47 AM

[0 comments](#)

MONDAY, OCTOBER 29, 2007

## Online Resume Builder

BEGIN HERE (and read the note below):

### [Online Resume Builder](#)

Important note: You can save the resume you complete using the above Online Resume Builder by:

1. Dragging your browser over the resume, copying it, and pasting it into Microsoft Word.
2. Saving the Microsoft Word document on the transfer drive.

Other resume resources:

[Resume Tutor](#) from University of Minnesota.

A [second online resume builder](#) (click on free trial)

Posted by waterwalker at 8:27 AM

[0 comments](#)

FRIDAY, OCTOBER 19, 2007

## Online Quiz on Sentence Types

Please [click here](#) to check your knowledge of sentence types.

### SDHS English Links

[SDHS Senior English Forum](#)

[SDHS Superportal](#)

[Senior English Wiki Site](#)

[English Without Borders Forum](#)

[Wirthportal](#)

### More Links

[Google](#)

[Spark Notes -- Literature](#)

[Guide to Grammar & Writing](#)

[MSAD 56 website](#)

[Village Soup](#)

[Boston Globe](#)

[Boston Red Sox](#)

[IMDb \(Movie Database\)](#)

[Waterlines Paddling Journal](#)

### Blog Archive

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▶ [2005 \(23\)](#)

### About Me

Posted by waterwalker at 8:52 AM

[0 comments](#)

Ray Wirth

[View my complete profile](#)

FRIDAY, OCTOBER 12, 2007

## College Admission Essay Tips

The College Board has useful section on [Essay Skills](#) for the college admissions essay. Included are a section on how to choose a topic and tips on writing the essay itself.

Samples of successful essays can be found at [www.quintcareers.com/](http://www.quintcareers.com/)

The Common Application essay prompts are at <https://app.commonapp.org/CommonApp/docs/downloadforms/CommonApp2008.pdf>

True fact: You can pay as much as \$1000.00 to have a professional essay editing service such as [EssayEdge](#) help you with your essay. (Or you can just ask Wirthy and get help for free).

The College Board suggests you compete the following as part of your brainstorming process:

- **Discover Your Strengths:** Do a little research about yourself: ask parents, friends, and teachers what your strengths are.
- **Create a Self-Outline:** Now, next to each trait, list five or six pieces of evidence from your life—things you've been or done—that prove your point.
- **Find Patterns and Connections:** Look for patterns in the material you've brainstormed. Group similar ideas and events together. For example, does your passion for numbers show up in your performance in the state math competition and your summer job at the computer store? Was basketball about sports or about friendships? When else have you stuck with the hard work to be with people who matter to you?

Posted by waterwalker at 11:25 AM

[0 comments](#)

WEDNESDAY, SEPTEMBER 26, 2007

## Evaluating Web Sources

Take the online quiz at <http://www.quick.org.uk/menu.htm>

Then visit the the following pages and complete the chart as outlined by Mr. Wirth:

[http://www.weight-loss-institute.com/diet\\_pills.htm](http://www.weight-loss-institute.com/diet_pills.htm)

<http://anatrimtabs.blogspot.com/2007/09/what-are-ingredients-of-anatrim.html>

[http://www.fda.gov/EDAC/features/196\\_wght.html](http://www.fda.gov/EDAC/features/196_wght.html)

Happy surfing!

Posted by waterwalker at 12:43 PM

[0 comments](#)

WEDNESDAY, SEPTEMBER 05, 2007

## Welcome to Wirthy English

Glad that you found your way to this blog -- which can serve as a useful resource for Senior English students at SDHS. On a more immediate basis, you can get an extra credit point just by posting a comment in response to this post. (You can post as an anonymous user. Just be sure to include your first name and last initial. i.e. "Ray W. was here" gets you extra credit!

Posted by waterwalker at 2:16 PM

[2 comments](#)

TUESDAY, JUNE 12, 2007

## AP English Summer Reading 2007

All students taking AP English in 2006-2007 should complete the following:

- (1) Read two of the following books.
- (2) Take notes as you read the two books. These "notes" should consist of 40 or more "bookmarks" in the form of post-it notes inserted into the book. Each booknote should be a comment about a particular passage in the book. Ideally your notes will include reflections, observations, analysis, connections, and more. Please write me at [rwirth@msad56.org](mailto:rwirth@msad56.org) if you have questions.

# 101 Great Books

## Recommended for College-Bound Readers

It's a good idea to talk to your parents, librarians, teachers, and counselor about your reading list. They can help you choose the best books for you from among your many options.

Author	Title
--	<i>Beowulf</i>
Achebe, Chinua	<i>Things Fall Apart</i>
Agee, James	<i>A Death in the Family</i>
Austen, Jane	<i>Pride and Prejudice</i>
Baldwin, James	<i>Go Tell It on the Mountain</i>
Beckett, Samuel	<i>Waiting for Godot</i>
Bellow, Saul	<i>The Adventures of Augie March</i>
Brontë, Charlotte	<i>Jane Eyre</i>
Brontë, Emily	<i>Wuthering Heights</i>
Camus, Albert	<i>The Stranger</i>
Cather, Willa	<i>Death Comes for the Archbishop</i>
Chaucer, Geoffrey	<i>The Canterbury Tales</i>

Chekhov, Anton	<i>The Cherry Orchard</i>
Chopin, Kate	<i>The Awakening</i>
Conrad, Joseph	<i>Heart of Darkness</i>
Cooper, James Fenimore	<i>The Last of the Mohicans</i>
Crane, Stephen	<i>The Red Badge of Courage</i>
Dante	<i>Inferno</i>
de Cervantes, Miguel	<i>Don Quixote</i>
Defoe, Daniel	<i>Robinson Crusoe</i>
Dickens, Charles	<i>A Tale of Two Cities</i>
Dostoyevsky, Fyodor	<i>Crime and Punishment</i>
Douglass, Frederick	<i>Narrative of the Life of Frederick Douglass</i>
Dreiser, Theodore	<i>An American Tragedy</i>
Dumas, Alexandre	<i>The Three Musketeers</i>
Eliot, George	<i>The Mill on the Floss</i>
Ellison, Ralph	<i>Invisible Man</i>
Emerson, Ralph Waldo	<i>Selected Essays</i>
Faulkner, William	<i>As I Lay Dying</i>
Faulkner, William	<i>The Sound and the Fury</i>
Fielding, Henry	<i>Tom Jones</i>
Fitzgerald, F. Scott	<i>The Great Gatsby</i>
Flaubert, Gustave	<i>Madame Bovary</i>
Ford, Ford Madox	<i>The Good Soldier</i>
Goethe, Johann Wolfgang von	<i>Faust</i>
Golding, William	<i>Lord of the Flies</i>
Hardy, Thomas	<i>Tess of the d'Urbervilles</i>
Hawthorne, Nathaniel	<i>The Scarlet Letter</i>
Heller, Joseph	<i>Catch 22</i>
Hemingway, Ernest	<i>A Farewell to Arms</i>
Homer	<i>The Iliad</i>
Homer	<i>The Odyssey</i>
Hugo, Victor	<i>The Hunchback of Notre Dame</i>
Hurston, Zora Neale	<i>Their Eyes Were Watching God</i>
Huxley, Aldous	<i>Brave New World</i>
Ibsen, Henrik	<i>A Doll's House</i>
James, Henry	<i>The Portrait of a Lady</i>
James, Henry	<i>The Turn of the Screw</i>
Joyce, James	<i>A Portrait of the Artist as a Young Man</i>
Kafka, Franz	<i>The Metamorphosis</i>
Kingston, Maxine Hong	<i>The Woman Warrior</i>
Lee, Harper	<i>To Kill a Mockingbird</i>
Lewis, Sinclair	<i>Babbitt</i>
London, Jack	<i>The Call of the Wild</i>
Mann, Thomas	<i>The Magic Mountain</i>
Marquez, Gabriel García	<i>One Hundred Years of Solitude</i>
Melville, Herman	<i>Bartleby the Scrivener</i>
Melville, Herman	<i>Moby Dick</i>
Miller, Arthur	<i>The Crucible</i>
Morrison, Toni	<i>Beloved</i>
O'Connor, Flannery	<i>A Good Man is Hard to Find</i>
O'Neill, Eugene	<i>Long Day's Journey into Night</i>
Orwell, George	<i>Animal Farm</i>

Pasternak, Boris	<i>Doctor Zhivago</i>
Plath, Sylvia	<i>The Bell Jar</i>
Poe, Edgar Allan	<i>Selected Tales</i>
Proust, Marcel	<i>Swann's Way</i>
Pynchon, Thomas	<i>The Crying of Lot 49</i>
Remarque, Erich Maria	<i>All Quiet on the Western Front</i>
Rostand, Edmond	<i>Cyrano de Bergerac</i>
Roth, Henry	<i>Call It Sleep</i>
Salinger, J.D.	<i>The Catcher in the Rye</i>
Shakespeare, William	<i>Hamlet</i>
Shakespeare, William	<i>Macbeth</i>
Shakespeare, William	<i>A Midsummer Night's Dream</i>
Shakespeare, William	<i>Romeo and Juliet</i>
Shaw, George Bernard	<i>Pygmalion</i>
Shelley, Mary	<i>Frankenstein</i>
Silko, Leslie Marmon	<i>Ceremony</i>
Solzhenitsyn, Alexander	<i>One Day in the Life of Ivan Denisovich</i>
Sophocles	<i>Antigone</i>
Sophocles	<i>Oedipus Rex</i>
Steinbeck, John	<i>The Grapes of Wrath</i>
Stevenson, Robert Louis	<i>Treasure Island</i>
Stowe, Harriet Beecher	<i>Uncle Tom's Cabin</i>
Swift, Jonathan	<i>Gulliver's Travels</i>
Thackeray, William	<i>Vanity Fair</i>
Thoreau, Henry David	<i>Walden</i>
Tolstoy, Leo	<i>War and Peace</i>
Turgenev, Ivan	<i>Fathers and Sons</i>
Twain, Mark	<i>The Adventures of Huckleberry Finn</i>
Voltaire	<i>Candide</i>
Vonnegut, Kurt Jr.	<i>Slaughterhouse-Five</i>
Walker, Alice	<i>The Color Purple</i>
Wharton, Edith	<i>The House of Mirth</i>
Welty, Eudora	<i>Collected Stories</i>
Whitman, Walt	<i>Leaves of Grass</i>
Wilde, Oscar	<i>The Picture of Dorian Gray</i>
Williams, Tennessee	<i>The Glass Menagerie</i>
Woolf, Virginia	<i>To the Lighthouse</i>
Wright, Richard	<i>Native Son</i>

Posted by waterwalker at 8:51 AM

[0 comments](#)

MONDAY, MAY 21, 2007

## Literacy 9 Assignment for Monday, May 21

1. Read the directions below carefully before doing anything.
2. Please follow the directions exactly. If you don't, chaos could result.
3. Go to [www.wordpress.com](http://www.wordpress.com) and type in the following username and password:

username: literacy 9

password: explorations

4. Click "Login"
5. Then under the heading for "Your Blogs" click "Literacy 9"
6. Then click "View Site" near the top of the page.
7. Follow the directions on that page.
8. Happy blogging!

Posted by waterwalker at 10:30 AM

[0 comments](#)

MONDAY, FEBRUARY 12, 2007

## Literacy 9 Assignment for Monday, Feb. 12

Today, I'd like you to use the Literacy 9 class as follows:

- (1) first 40 minutes of class -- online computer critical thinking challenges, including some really fun ones. See below.
- (2) next 30 minutes of class -- silent independent reading.
- (3) last 10 minutes of class. Write and submit a recap of (a) what computer challenges you attempted / what you learned, and also (b) what you read about during the independent reading period. This "recap" should be 1/2 page or more in length and should be submitted to the basket on my desk.

Online critical thinking challenges:

1. [Growth of Knowledge in your lifetime](#)
2. [Missionaries and Cannibals](#)
3. [Wolf, Sheep, and Cabbage](#)
4. [Vocabulary Challenge](#)

Posted by waterwalker at 12:29 PM

[0 comments](#)

MONDAY, FEBRUARY 05, 2007

## English Without Borders: White Man's Burden Unit

Look up the definition of imperialism.  
Look up definitions for parody and satire.

Re-Read the Kipling poem, "White Man's Burden." Copy of poem should be on front table. Students already have copies of this poem. Poem is also at <http://www.boondocksnet.com/ai/kipling/kipling.html>

In what way does the poem reflect imperialistic ideas?

Browse through the response poems at  
<http://www.boondocksnet.com/ai/kipling/index.html>

Working with a partner, choose one of the response poems (must be more than 12 lines). Complete 2 of the handout (students already have this handout) by responding to the questions about the response poem.

Next, create your own response to Kipling's poem about imperialism. This may be in the form of a poem, a cartoon, or a letter to the editor.

Posted by waterwalker at [8:11 AM](#)

[0 comments](#)

TUESDAY, JANUARY 16, 2007

## Literacy 9 Assignment for Jan. 16

Please go to <http://www.snopes.com> and then complete the following:

1. Choose a category.
2. Choose an urban legend marked with a red circle -- this means the urban legend is false
3. Click on the link associated with that urban legend. (If there is no link, choose another legend)
4. Read the article associated with that urban legend.
5. Write a half page summary of the story behind the urban legend and how it became accepted as truth.
6. Add a brief statement to number 5 on what you learned from this activity.

While half the class is completing the above assignment, the other half should be on the computers completing Carmen SanDiego cases. Have fun!

Posted by waterwalker at [10:35 AM](#)

[0 comments](#)

Labels: [legends](#)

SATURDAY, NOVEMBER 04, 2006

## Podcast Coming Soon!

Wirthy English podcast coming soon to this site!  
(Be the first to hear it).

Posted by waterwalker at [3:16 PM](#)

[0 comments](#)

THURSDAY, OCTOBER 26, 2006

## College Admissions Essay Helpers

Sample questions, tips on writing an essay, and more can be found at:

<http://www.collegeboard.com/article/0,3868,5-26-0-108,00.html>

[http://www.quintcareers.com/college\\_application\\_essay.html](http://www.quintcareers.com/college_application_essay.html)

Posted by waterwalker at [8:48 AM](#)

[0 comments](#)

## Resume Writing Resources

BEGIN HERE (and read the note below): [Online Resume Builder](#)

Important note: You can save the resume you complete using the above Online Resume Builder by:

1. Dragging your browser over the resume, copying it, and pasting it into Microsoft Word.
2. Saving the Microsoft Word document on the transfer drive.

Other resume resources:

[Resume Tutor](#) from University of Minnesota.

A [second online resume builder](#) (click on free trial)

Posted by waterwalker at [8:46 AM](#)

[0 comments](#)

THURSDAY, SEPTEMBER 14, 2006

## Welcome to the 2006 - 2007 School Year!

Please bookmark this space and check back for updates. Major assignments, information on thematic units, useful links, as well as extra credit opportunities will be posted here.

Posted by waterwalker at [3:20 PM](#)

[0 comments](#)

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