

**Canterbury High School**  
**Summer Reading 2023-2024 | *American Literature & Composition***  
**Ms. Sengstock | [asengstock@canterburyschool.org](mailto:asengstock@canterburyschool.org)**

Welcome to English 10!

I am very excited for our class together this fall. My hope is that through our study of American literature, you will become more aware of the world and your place in it, learn how to navigate sophisticated texts, and practice writing for an authentic audience. In pursuit of these central course goals, you will be participating in the New York Times Summer Reading Contest. Please see the following information about this summer assignment, which will be completed each week from June 9 to August 18 and submitted to Turnitin.com on the first day of school.

Here's how the contest works:

- 1. Every Friday beginning on June 9, the NYT will publish a post asking the same question: “What got your attention in The Times this week?”** You will comment your answer on that post any time until the following Friday at 9 a.m., when the post will be closed to comment and the NYT will open a new one for the following week. On August 11 the final question of the summer will be posted, open until 9 a.m. on August 18.

You can always find the proper link to the place to post at the top of [this webpage](#), updated each week. You can also find it on the [Learning Network homepage](#).

To see how this works, [visit this post from last summer's contest](#) and check out the student comments that were submitted at that time.

- 2. You can choose anything you like that was published in the print paper or on [NYTimes.com](#) in 2023**, including articles, [Op-Eds](#), [videos](#), [multimedia](#), and [podcasts](#). [Click here](#) to see the variety of topics winners have written about in the past.
- 3. To receive full credit on this assignment, you must participate once a week for all 10 weeks of the contest (10 points per post).** If you miss posts because you matriculated to Canterbury partway through the summer, or you are living in the woods without internet access, please have a parent email me and we will arrange an alternative assignment.
- 4. Responses must be 1,500 characters or fewer (about 250 words).** Here is a [contest rubric](#) as well as a [guide](#) that details four simple ways to make your response stand out.

5. **At the beginning of your response, make sure to provide the complete URL or headline of the article you are referencing.** For example, “The Queen of Everest Trains While Working at Whole Foods” or <https://www.nytimes.com/2023/01/31/sports/lhakpa-sherpa-everest.html>.
6. **Every Tuesday during the contest, starting June 27 and ending August 29, the Times will publish the previous week’s winner or winners in a separate post you can find [here](#).** The winners will also be celebrated on [Twitter](#) and [Facebook](#). For each week that you are selected as a winner, runner-up, or get an honorable mention, you will receive 5 points of extra credit on your summer assignment.
7. **You will keep a running Google Doc of all ten of your submissions to turn in at the end of the summer.** For each week, include the text of your submission, along with a screenshot of your submission before you hit “submit” AND a link to your published comment. To get the link, make sure to check the box that asks if you would like to be emailed when your comment is published. If you do so, the system will send you a link to your comment, which you will then paste into your Google Doc. (Please note that you will not get an email until the comment has been approved, which may take longer over weekends.)  
  
[See here for an example of what your assignment formatting should look like and what should be included.](#)
8. **A digital subscription to the Times is helpful, but not necessary.** All [Learning Network posts](#) for students, as well as all Times articles linked from them, are accessible without a digital subscription. So if you use any of the articles linked on the Learning Network site, they will not be blocked behind a paywall.

On each week’s post, 25+ recent articles will be linked for you to choose from if you don’t have your own subscription. And remember: You can use anything published anytime in 2023.

If you would like to explore the full extent of the Times, the Canterbury English department has a login that you may use. Please email me at [asengstock@canterburyschool.org](mailto:asengstock@canterburyschool.org) for login instructions.