

Dear A.P. English Students,

I look forward to meeting all of you in August—it will come faster than we can imagine! Your summer reading for this year is Maya Angelou's *I Know Why The Caged Bird Sings* and J.D. Salinger's *The Catcher in the Rye*. There will be a short reading quiz on the FIRST DAY of class to make sure you finished both. There is no writing assignment due, but you might want to consider the following questions to guide your reading:

*I Know Why The Caged Bird Sings*

1. How does Angelou's use of tone and diction add to her memoir?
2. *Caged Bird* is one of the most frequently banned books in the USA. Why do you think that is, and is it appropriate?
3. How is the setting of the novel essential to its story?
4. How would you describe Maya's relationship with her brother?

*The Catcher in the Rye*

1. Holden Caulfield is one of the most famous characters in literature. Is he an accurate portrayal of an adolescent male, or just an incredibly whiny, self-centered jerk?
2. WHY does Holden do so poorly in school?
3. WHY does Holden love his sister so dearly?
4. Several famous assassins claim to be inspired by this novel. Why do you think that is?

Enjoy your summer!

Mrs. Petty