



Summer Learning 2016
Department: Humanities
Course Title: DLI - The Essay
Teacher: Mr. Byrnes

ENTERING DLI - The Essay

Students taking The Essay will spend the summer getting themselves into excellent essay reading shape by finding and reading essays across various media and forms (newspaper, magazine, journals) and then doing a brief, one paragraph review of the essay which they will post online for other students. They'll also be asked to rate the essay with a 1-5 star rating. Students will be allowed to choose their own essays to read, though I will be sending suggestions throughout the summer which I'll generate by reading myself and by asking other people that I know who read lots of essays to recommend.

Sunday Times: Every student will be asked to read one essay from the Week in Review section of the [New York Times](#) and the Modern Love essay each week.

In addition to the Sunday Times reading, students must find and read at least one other essay per week. Here are some source suggestions:

Newspapers and magazines (hard copy or online)

1. [New Yorker](#)
2. [The Atlantic](#)
3. [Harper's Magazine](#)
4. [American Scholar](#)
5. [New York Magazine](#)

Journals (Most journals will have free reads and also a subscription option -- just read for free!). There are many more journals out there as well.....

1. [Harvard Review](#)
2. [The Kenyon Review](#)
3. [Virginia Quarterly Review](#)
4. [Granta](#)

Online magazines that feature Essays

1. [The Rumpus](#)
2. [Aeon Magazine](#)

3. [Longreads](#)
4. [The Electric Typewriter](#)

Here are websites/apps that curate essays and will send you what they think are the “best.” Don’t be frightened by the word “long,” though these will definitely be longer than the Op-Ed pieces in the Times.

1. [Longform](#)
2. [Instapaper](#) (this is an app that charges a small subscription fee).

Template will be posted on the class website once registration is complete

Write a review that briefly describes the essay. Touch on the primary situation and/or main idea that is explored and give a sense of whether or not you enjoyed the read, or got anything out of it. These reviews CANNOT be more than 100 words. Please only write in full sentences and use all appropriate punctuation. GIVE YOUR REVIEW AN ORIGINAL TITLE. You must also link the essay to your review. Give the essay 1 -5 stars. I will try to set this up on a template. Have fun with these reviews. I’ll post a couple of examples before the end of school.

Review Example:

“Coach Fitz’s Management Theory,” by Michael Lewis

<http://www.nytimes.com/2004/03/28/magazine/coach-fitz-s-management-theory.html?pagewanted=print&src=pm&r=0>

Michael Lewis is pulled back into his memories of his old baseball coach, Coach Fitz, when alumni want to name a gym after him, but current parents at his old school want him fired. As Lewis explores Coach Fitz's struggles with his current players, he thinks more deeply about the impact that the old coach -- and his intense and unorthodox coaching -- had on him and so many other young men through the years.

A compelling story about commitment and changing values over time. I enjoyed reading it quite a bit.

4 STARS!