Next year is not just your final year of high school, but your first year of college. You will get to demonstrate all that you have learned and, in turn, reap the rewards of your many years of schooling.

In this course, we will work to better understand writing through writing and reading. We will begin this exploration by trying to better understand the writer’s mind. To prepare for next year (and start you on a good path), you need to do three things:

1. Read & annotate Lynne Truss’ *Eats, Shoots & Leaves*

   Sometime during the summer break, find a copy of Lynne Truss’ *Eats, Shoots & Leaves*. Any unabridged edition will do. Read the work. Lynne Truss’ unique look at grammar will hopefully set you up for success as we will complete lots of writing throughout the year. Our work in the fall (including a writing assessment during the first week of class in September) will assume your knowledge of the concepts within.

   As you read, keep a list of Truss’ advice for good writing. Try to keep each item on your list to one sentence or less. Type up your list and have at least 2 pages typed, 12 pt font, double spaced. (This can be done in bullet points. It does not have to be in essay format.)

2. Read, analyze, and apply Truss’ advice using a book of choice

   Choose a level-appropriate novel or nonfiction book(s) and find 6-8 passages that you think exemplify Truss’ advice from *Eats, Shoots & Leaves*. Provide the passage from the text then, for each passage choice, write a brief, clear, specific explanation of why this passage is such a good example of Truss’ suggestion. Each explanation should be around 100 words. (Note: Passages do not count towards the explanation.) Make sure you format and cite in MLA. Give a heading to each explanation then add the MLA citation for all books used. (This might be as few as two, but will need more if multiple books are used for this section). You must have a Works Cited page.

Remember – you are entering a college class. The expectations are higher, and you are expected to complete your work and turn it in on time. I’m excited to start our year off strong!

On the second Tuesday of the school year, you are expected to turn in:

- ✔ Your list of advice from Truss’ book (at least 2 pages typed, 12pt font, double spaced)
- ✔ Your SIX to EIGHT written explanations detailing the passages you’ve analyzed (12pt font, double spaced with a Works Cited page)

For help with MLA citations and formatting, use:

Purdue Owl’s MLA Citation Guide online
https://owl.purdue.edu/owl/research_and_citation/mla_style/mla_formatting_and_style_guide/mla_sample_works_cited_page.html