

ELA Summer Assignment

Write a response to 1-2 texts about Covid-19—you can respond to an article, a broadcast, a Tedtalk, a tweet, a photograph, a podcast, a film, an Instagram (or another online) post, a TikTok video, a political cartoon—anything that spurs some thinking about the crisis. Respond to any texts about the crisis that you find interesting.

Your response should identify the title, author, date, source (for example: New York Times, Instagram, Tedtalk), and the website.

Include a *brief* summary of the text(s). Then write a reaction.

Topics to consider:

- What parts of the text did you agree with? Did you disagree with anything?
- What surprised you?
- What did you find interesting and why?
- Can you make a personal connection to the text?
- Does the text remind you of something else you've read? Or watched? Or listened to?

Your response should not be a list of answers to these questions. Choose one or two questions and write a thoughtful response that explains your reaction using specific evidence from the text(s).

*****You must include two quotations*****

Word Count:

- Grade 9: 150 words
- Grade 10: 200 words
- Grade 11: 250 words
- Grade 12: 300 words

Here are some sample texts from March to provide ideas about topics and sources, **BUT you must find your own texts from this summer to write about. DO NOT** write about one of these texts—use them as a starting point for your own research.

Sample texts:

o 25 songs that matter now:

<https://www.nytimes.com/interactive/2020/03/11/magazine/best-songs.html?action=click&module=moreIn&pgtype=Article®ion=Footer&action=click&module=MoreInSection&pgtype=Article®ion=Footer&contentCollection=The%20New%20York%20Times%20Magazine#cover>

o Coronavirus explained in a TedTalk: Coronavirus Is Our Future | Alanna Shaikh | TEDxSMU
<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Fqw-9yMV0sI>

o Who will pay the salary of stadium workers? One player steps up. Pelicans Star Zion Williamson Pledges to Pay the Salaries for Staffers of the Smoothie King Center
<https://people.com/sports/pelicans-star-zion-williamson-pay-salaries-staffers-smoothie-king-center/>

o Student sent home for profiting on the selling of hand sanitizer: Student Sent Home For Selling Hand Sanitizer By The Squirt To Classmates, Mom Says
https://www.huffpost.com/entry/hand-sanitizer-school-suspension_n_5e6b071ec5b6dda30fc642ef

o Podcast on the Coronavirus: Ologies “Virology (COVID-19) with Dr. Shannon Bennet + various ologists”
<https://www.alieward.com/ologies/virology>

o Researchers are using a World of Warcraft scenario to understand COVID-19’s spread: PCGamer article.
<https://www.pcgamer.com/the-researchers-who-once-studied-wows-corrupted-blood-plague-are-now-fighting-the-coronavirus/>

o A look at coronavirus through comics:
<https://www.npr.org/sections/goatsandsoda/2020/02/28/809580453/just-for-kids-a-comic-exploring-the-new-coronavirus>

If you are having trouble finding articles written this summer, use this resource:

You can find current *New York Times* articles about the coronavirus here:
<https://www.nytimes.com/news-event/coronavirus>

You can access five *New York Times* articles each month.