

A.P. Literature and TCC English

Be prepared to turn in all summer reading materials to your English teacher on the first day of school. Save all work on a flash drive to submit to www.turnitin.com during the first week of school.

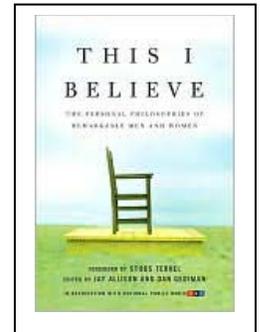
Part 1:

In the 1950s, journalist Edward R. Murrow hosted a weekly radio series inviting listeners “to write about the core beliefs that guide your daily life.” At a time of political and cultural anxiety, the show asked Nobel laureates and everyday citizens to articulate their personal articles of faith even as it called them to listen carefully to the beliefs of others. In 2005, *This I Believe* was revived for National Public Radio as a way “to encourage people to begin the ... difficult task of developing respect for beliefs different from their own.” Tens of thousands of Americans have written in to join Colin Powell, Gloria Steinem, and Tony Hawk in returning the dialogue of beliefs to American broadcasting.

- A. Go to this website: www.thisibelieve.org or purchase the book *This I Believe: The Personal Philosophies of Remarkable Men and Women*, edited by Jay Allison and Dan Gediman © 2006.

Read or listen to the following ten essays:

- “Introduction to the Original This I Believe” by Edward R. Murrow (p. 269)
- “Free Minds and Hearts at Work” by Jackie Robinson (p. 197)
- “The Light of a Brighter Day” by Helen Keller (p. 138)
- “Growth That Starts from Thinking” by Eleanor Roosevelt (p. 201)
- “An Ideal of Service to Our Fellow Man” by Albert Einstein (p. 58)
- "The Joy and Enthusiasm of Reading" by Rick Moody (p. 159)
- "Mysterious Connections That Link Us Together" by Azar Nafisi (p. 171)
- "The Making of Poems" by Gregory Orr (p. 175)
- "My Fellow Worms" by Carl Sandburg (p. 207)
- "A Balance Between Nature and Nurture" by Gloria Steinem (p. 228)
- "Life, Liberty, and the Pursuit of Happiness" by Andrew Sullivan (p. 232)



- B. After reading each essay, write a six-word main idea statement. You can find examples of six-word statements at

<http://www.npr.org/programs/totn/features/2008/02/memoir/gallery/index.html>

- C. Finally, write your own *This I Believe* essay. For this essay, you will write 500 words describing an idea or principle in which you believe. Please make it wholly your own belief. It is not *all* that you believe; it is simply a way to introduce others to some things you value. You may decide to focus on commitments to family, service, political action, or the arts. As you look for a focus, try to choose concrete language and to find something that helps others understand your past, present, and future choices.

Part 2:

Read *The Kite Runner* by Khaled Hosseini. Complete a Major Works Data Sheet. (A template for the MWDS can be found on Leon’s website under Summer Reading.) This should also be saved to a flash drive, as it will be submitted to [turnitin.com](http://www.turnitin.com).