

The Mercury Reader

Editor's Choice

Short Readings*

Selections marked 'New' available January 2007

THE READING AND WRITING PROCESS (includes **Judy Brady**, Why I Want a Wife)

REVISION

ARGUMENT (includes **Maya Angelou**, Graduation)

Family and Community

Introduction

Annie Dillard, So This Was Adolescence

Seamus Heaney, Mid-Term Break

Jamaica Kincaid, Girl

NEW! **Primo Levi**, My House

Alice Walker, The Place Where I Was Born

Elizabeth Wong, The Struggle to be an All-American Girl

Coming of Age

Introduction

David Bottoms, Sign for My Father, Who Stressed the Bunt

Kate Chopin, The Story of an Hour

Jamaica Kincaid, *from* On Seeing England for the First Time

Phyllis Schneider, Memory: Tips You'll Never Forget

NEW! **David Sedaris**, The End of the Affair

Education and Learning

Introduction

Isaac Asimov, What is Intelligence, Anyway?

NEW! **James Barszcz**, Can You Be Educated From a Distance?

Janice Castro and Dan Cook, Spanglish

Langston Hughes, Theme for English B

NEW! **Frances Osborne**, In Unhistoric Acts Does True History Lie

Gary B. Trudeau, Student Friendly Courses

* Contents and availability subject to change.

Gender and Sexuality

Introduction

Margaret Atwood, The Female Body

Ellen Goodman, The “Reasonable Woman” Is an Effective Standard to Establish Harassment

Suzanne Britt Jordan, That Lean and Hungry Look

Grace Paley, Love

Work and Leisure

Introduction

Wyn Cooper, Fun

NEW! **Rick Moody**, The Joy and Enthusiasm of Reading

NEW! **Sarah Vowell**, Pop-A-Shot

Robert Wallace, The Double Play

Popular Culture

Introduction

Ian Frazier, Trust Me, In These Parts, Hot Dogs Actually Repel Bears

Ed Fulginti, Do-Gooders Need to Let Us Decide for Ourselves What is Harmful

Heather Havrilesky, Beach Blanket Bimbology

Ira C. Herbert, Coca Cola Letters

NEW! **Kay S. Hymowitz**, Tweens: Ten Going on Sixteen

John O'Brien, Cinderella on a Talk Show

Mike Ross, This Eminem May Melt Your Ears

David E. Thigpen, Deliverance

Science and Technology

Introduction

Rachel Carson, A Fable for Tomorrow

Christopher John Farley, Nirvana is a Click Away

Al Griffin, Sony: 36-Inch HD-Ready TV

Jeffrey Goldberg, Microbes on the Move

NEW! **Jennifer Lee**, I Think Therefore IM

Clarence Page, Candid Dialogue Key to Curbing Race Generalizations

Carolyn Pavia-Rauchman, Honda Insight

Kim Stanley Robinson, Why We Should Go to Mars

Politics and Society

Introduction

- Edward Abbey**, The Right to Arms
- Elizabeth Ashe**, The Devastation is Terrible
- NEW!** **John Major**, There Is No Worldwide Terrorist Conspiracy
- Orlando Patterson**, Race Over
- Scott Russell Sanders**, Death of a Homeless Man

Ethics and Values

Introduction

- Barbara Lawrence**, Four-Letter Words Can Hurt You
- Emma Lazarus**, The New Colossus
- Philip Levine**, The Simple Truth
- Anna Quindlen**, Abortion is Too Complex to Feel All One Way About
- NEW!** **Elie Wiesel**, The Perils of Indifference
- Richard Wilbur**, The Death of a Toad

Multiculturalism and Diversity

Introduction

- NEW!** **Walter Mosley**, An African-American Appeal for Peace
- NEW!** **Azar Nafisi**, Mysterious Connections that Link Us Together
- NEW!** **Studs Terkel**, Roberto Acuna, Migrant Farm Worker