No one knows your course needs better than you.

Even if you are teaching a composition course that is offered at many schools, you have your own way of doing things. You know what essays and works of literature you want to teach and the order you want to teach them.

With a 35-year-old custom publishing foundation built on quality, savings and control, we have developed a program that lets you quickly and easily build a customized reader that works for your class, not someone else's. Your students learn from material developed by the best authors, and pay only for the content you choose. Everything is in the order you require—nothing is wasted.

We encourage you to review the pages inside this selection guide, then take a look at the inside back cover to review your options for taking action.
MERCURY READER

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ENGLISH

MERCURY READER

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Available Apparatus

Author Headnotes
Each reading automatically includes a brief headnote that contextualizes both the author and the piece.

Study Questions
In addition, you have the option to include questions following each reading that address content and style and provide writing assignments. These questions help students respond to the reading, understand the ways in which it was constructed, and devise essay topics.

Thematic Introductions
These 14 brief introductions orient the student to some of the issues that commonly appear in the readings and give a brief historical overview of how writers have dealt with the theme in question. They also provide a short list of important writers on each theme.

Rhetorical Introductions
These optional introductions to nine rhetorical strategies explain the most commonly used patterns of writing. The Rhetorical Introductions introduce different writing strategies, their strengths and weaknesses, and how and why an author might use each category.

Each introduction focuses on a different paragraph from Maya Angelou’s “Graduation” to illustrate the strategies. Although the portions of Angelou’s essay that are included in these introductions are meant to be read without intimate knowledge of the larger piece, you many want to consider including “Graduation” in its entirety to enhance the experience for your students. If so, please see Mercury Reader selection A001.

Narration, 2 pp. (P015)
Description, 2 pp. (P014)
Example, 2 pp. (P016)
Comparison and Contrast, 2 pp. (P019)
Process Analysis, 3 pp. (P017)
Classification and Division, 3 pp. (P018)
Cause and Effect, 5 pp. (P021)
Definition, 3 pp. (P020)
Persuasion, 5 pp. (P029)
INSTRUCTIONAL CHAPTERS
These 19 chapters provide guidance on crucial writing issues, including the revision process, sample student papers, and peer review. Think of them as the puzzle pieces for your ideal reader.

Argument — A Non-Traditional Model
Reading Arguments: This chapter introduces three models: Rogerian, Toulmin, and Aristotelian. Using Maya Angelou’s “Graduation” as an example, it guides students through an analysis of written arguments and discusses how to read them critically.
Writing Arguments: The chapter covers understanding the topic, evaluating evidence, considering alternative perspectives, and composing an argumentative essay. 46 pp. (P030)

Argument — A Traditional Model
Reading Arguments: This chapter introduces three models: Rogerian, Toulmin, and Aristotelian. Using former Attorney General Nicholas deB. Katzenbach and former Assistant Attorney General Burke Marshall’s “Not Color Blind: Just Blind” as an example, it guides students through an analysis of written arguments and discusses how to read them critically.
Writing Arguments: The chapter covers understanding the topic, evaluating evidence, considering alternative perspectives, and composing an argumentative essay. 44 pp. (P040)

On Critical Inquiry
Introduces students to synthesis, analysis, and evaluation as tools for effective reading and writing. 4 pp. (P046)

Documentation in the Humanities: MLA Style
Provides students with a list of the general rules of manuscript format, as well as many examples of in-text citation, including guidelines for citing electronic sources. 12 pp. (P050)

Documentation in the Social Sciences: APA Style
A brief overview of the guidelines for presenting papers in the social sciences, including examples of in-text citation and citation of electronic sources. 7 pp. (P026)

Evaluating Sources and Documentation for Electronic Sources: MLA Style
Offers advice on how to evaluate the credibility of internet research. Strategies include seeking guidance from professors, monitoring listservs, visiting authoritative sites, and doing detective work to evaluate legitimacy. 5 pp. (P051)

Literature: Reading, Responding, Writing
Introduces students to the ways to approach different genres of literature and different ways to write about literature. 5 pp. (P048)

Make the Most of Learning with Portfolios
Presents information about different types of portfolios — including definitions for open, closed, learning, electronic, and combination portfolios — as well as effective reflective writing and how to organize a portfolio efficiently. 5 pp. (P041)

Peer Review: Writing in a Community
Explains the process of peer review by depicting the stages of an actual essay, step-by-step. Available with or without a sample student essay
4 pp. without student paper (P038)
9 pp. with student paper, Acoustic Adventures (P039)
8 pp. with student paper, Grammar Litter (P044)
13 pp. with both student papers (P045)

The Reading and Writing Process
Presents a range of reading processes — from effective skimming and selecting to close reading and interpreting — according to purpose, audience, and context of the writing occasion. Includes a discussion of Judy Brady’s “Why I Want a Wife” to help students adjust their skills to a variety of situations. 28 pp. (P027)
Researching Papers
Presents instructional information on the various types of research, including field, library, and Web research, as well as how to choose the right materials and blend them effectively and honestly into a research project. 11 pp. (P028)

Revision
Offers methods for rethinking and refocusing early drafts using techniques for global changes. Prepares students to become better readers of one another’s work so they can offer and incorporate peer suggestions. 18 pp. (P002)

Sample Student Paper: Acoustic Adventures by Arden S.
This essay responds to a writing assignment accompanying Mercury Reader selection A029, “On Dumpster Diving” by Lars Eighner. It demonstrates brainstorming, drafting, and peer review and includes the final revision of the essay. 3 pp. (P042)

Sample Student Paper: Grammar Litter by Lily W.
This essay responds to a writing assignment accompanying Mercury Reader selection A522, a New Yorker cartoon, “Summons for Reckless Grammar”. It demonstrates brainstorming, drafting, and peer review and includes the final revision of the essay. 4 pp. (P043)

Style: A Brief Guide
Covers stylistic choices including using clear subjects and strong verbs, eliminating excess words and phrases, varying sentence length and structure, and editing for correct usage. 15 pp. (P035)

A Word about Honesty
Explains the academically acceptable methods for using information taken from other sources, as well as the reasoning behind those standards. 2 pp. (P036)

Writing about Visual Texts
 Discusses how to respond to visual prompts in writing, as well as choose visual information in their own papers. Uses the famous photograph of the marines raising the American flag at Iwo Jima and Charles Shultz’s “Peanuts” comics. Consider adding Mercury Reader A460, “Dear Editor”, also by Shultz as an accompaniment. 7 pp. (P037)

Writing and Speaking
Presents the parallels between reading, speaking, and writing, and helps students see where written and oral presentations make use of similar strategies and how they vary. 5 pp. (P049)

Writing with Computers
Provides important tips and techniques for students who may be familiar with computers, but face new kinds of college writing assignments. 4 pp. (P034)
NEW! CASE STUDIES

Each case study includes an introduction and question set to tie together the readings. You can choose to include as many of the suggested readings as you like.

Case Study: The Politics of Food
What does food mean to us? This group of readings illustrates the depth and variety of the issues surrounding food consumption.

P060  Introduction and Question Set, 3 pp.

A911  Steve Almond

A935  Barry Glassner

A844  Barbara Kingsolver
“Called Home” from Animal, Vegetable, Miracle, 21 pp.

A945  Geeta Kothari
If You Are What You Eat, Then What Am I?, 6 pp.

A970  Janet Raloff
Weed Killer in the Crosshairs, 7 pp.

A765  Eric Schlosser

A888  Upton Sinclair
Chapter 14 from The Jungle, 8 pp.

A981  Morgan Spurlock
Girth of a Nation, 17 pp.

A982  Tom Standage
Paradoxes of Plenty, 15 pp.

Case Study: The Value of Humor
These selections lead the reader through a complex and fascinating maze of humor, satire, and wit.

P061  Introduction and Question Set

A914  Dave Barry
Guys vs. Men, 7 pp.

A962  The Onion
All Seven Deadly Sins Committed at Church Bake Sale, 3 pp.

A968  David Rakoff

A975  David Sedaris
Nutcracker.com, 5 pp.

A431  Anne Sexton
Snow White and the Seven Dwarfs, 6 pp.

A990  Mark Twain
Advice to Youth, 3 pp.

Case Study: Immigration and Border Politics
The readings in this section touch on just a few aspects of the extremely complicated matter of immigration policy and reform.

P062  Introduction and Question Set, 3 pp.

A224  Barbara Jordan
The Americanization Ideal, 2 pp.

A898  Bryan Welch
Putting a Stop to Slave Labor, 6 pp.

A993  Tim Vanderpool
Death Watch in the Desert, 3 pp.

A071  Richard Rodriguez
The Fear of Losing a Culture, 4 pp.

A959  Bharati Mukherjee
Two Ways to Belong in America, 3 pp.

A619  Edward Said
Stereotyping of Arabs by the U.S. Ensures Years of Turmoil, 4 pp.
Case Study: Social Media

These readings examine the ways in which social tools such as Facebook, Twitter, Flickr, and Slideshare have changed the way that many people communicate and have even reshaped the structure of society itself.

P063 Introduction and Question Set, 3 pp.
A989 Clive Thompson
A971 Matt Richtel
Hooked on Gadgets, and Paying a Mental Price, 12 pp.
A770 Katie Hafner and Tim Gnatik
A771 Jack Shafer
A516 David Pogue
Take My Privacy, Please, 3 pp.

Case Study: Poverty and Social Justice

These readings demonstrate and analyze the divide between the rich and poor.

P064 Introduction and Question Set, 4 pp.
A762 John Rawls
A Theory of Justice, 7 pp.
A171 Clarence Darrow
Address to the Prisoners in the Cook County Jail, 11 pp.
A011 Toni Cade Bambara
The Lesson, 8 pp.
A716 Barbara Ehrenreich
A857 Gregory Mantsios
Class in America—2006, 18 pp.
A537 Alan Reynolds and Richard Nadler
We’re Number One (Percent): What’s Right about the Rich and Always with Us: ... and Wrong About the Poor, 10 pp.

Case Study: Human Rights

These selections reflect the complexity of human rights issues. A careful reading of the selections will make clear why truths that the Founding Fathers of the United States held “to be self evident” have so often engendered debate and controversy.

P065 Introduction and Question Set, 4 pp.
A127 Thomas Paine
Rights of Man (excerpt), 4 pp.
A819 Frederick Douglass
What to the Slave is the Fourth of July?, 5 pp.
A048 Martin Luther King, Jr.
A161 Susan B. Anthony
Women’s Right to Vote, 8 pp.
A1001 Evan Wolfson
What is Marriage?, 13 pp.
A992 United Nations Commission on Human Rights
The Universal Declaration of Human Rights, 4 pp.
A952 Michael Levin
A Case for Torture, 3 pp.
A977 Justine Sharrock
First, Do No Harm, 2 pp.
A702 Helena Cobban
International Courts, 7 pp.
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<tr>
<td>A090</td>
<td>Edward Abbey</td>
<td><em>The Right to Arms (1979)</em></td>
<td>Park service ranger Edward Abbey argues that gun control puts power in the hands of the government and the outlaws.</td>
<td>3 pp.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>A685</td>
<td>Chinua Achebe</td>
<td><em>Dead Man’s Path (1953)</em></td>
<td>The ambitious and progressive young headmaster of an African mission school learns a painful lesson about respecting ancient traditions.</td>
<td>5 pp.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>A679</td>
<td>ACLU</td>
<td><em>Editing the Bill of Rights: An American Civil Liberties Advertisement (2003)</em></td>
<td>With a combination of images and language, the American Civil Liberties Union accuses Attorney General John Ashcroft of attempting to dismantle constitutional rights.</td>
<td>2 pp.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>A482</td>
<td>Abigail Adams</td>
<td><em>Letter to John Adams on the State of Education (1776)</em></td>
<td>The outspoken wife of founding father John Adams laments the general condition of education and argues in particular that girls should have access to schooling.</td>
<td>3 pp.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>A800</td>
<td>John and Abigail Adams</td>
<td><em>Letters Between John and Abigail Adams (1776)</em></td>
<td>These letters were written while John was serving in the Continental Congress at Philadelphia to organize the new nation. Abigail reminds him to “remember the ladies” as he and his colleagues write the new laws—a warning not necessarily heeded.</td>
<td>5 pp.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>A507</td>
<td>Scott Adams</td>
<td><em>Glass Ceiling (1997)</em></td>
<td>In this Dilbert comic, popular cartoonist Adams puts a new spin on power relationships between men and women in the workplace.</td>
<td>2 pp.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>A783</td>
<td>Adbusters</td>
<td><em>The Blackspot Unwooisher (2006)</em></td>
<td>In this advertisement for Blackspot Shoes “Unwooisher,” <em>Adbusters</em> magazine makes known its attitude toward Nike.</td>
<td>2 pp.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>A246</td>
<td>Mortimer Adler</td>
<td><em>How to Mark a Book (1940)</em></td>
<td>Great Books advocate Mortimer Adler describes how to read a book by responding to the text in writing, thus giving a useful definition of active reading.</td>
<td>5 pp.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>A792</td>
<td>Advertisement</td>
<td><em>Hygiene and Social Attitudes (1930)</em></td>
<td>In this Listerine advertisement we see an early example of advertising’s ability to replicate cultural biases about people to sell products.</td>
<td>2 pp.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>A687</td>
<td>Sherman Alexie</td>
<td><em>The Lone Ranger and Tonto Fistfight in Heaven (1994)</em></td>
<td>In this short story, a young man from the Spokane Indian Reservation travels to Seattle to fulfill his promise, but, disaffected, returns back home. After the encounter, the narrator concludes that writers need to be in danger to keep their edge.</td>
<td>7 pp.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>A665</td>
<td>Sherman Alexie</td>
<td><em>The Toughest Indian in the World (2000)</em></td>
<td>In Alexie’s short story, a Native-American reporter picks up a hitchhiking boxer who shares information about his life and gives the reporter a scare. After the encounter, the narrator concludes that writers need to be in danger to keep their edge.</td>
<td>11 pp.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>A343</td>
<td>RoseMarie Gionta Alfieri</td>
<td><em>Should the State Know Your HIV Status? (1998)</em></td>
<td>Although compulsory HIV tests might help stem the spread of AIDS, warns Alfieri, the potential negative consequences—especially for women—outweigh the benefits.</td>
<td>8 pp.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>A091</td>
<td>Paula Gunn Allen</td>
<td><em>Where I Come from Is Like This (1986)</em></td>
<td>Allen describes the power of women in the mythology of Native American storytelling and legend.</td>
<td>7 pp.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>A786</td>
<td>Willie J. Allen, Jr.</td>
<td><em>Katrina: Growing Despair Amid the Ruins (2005)</em></td>
<td>In this photograph, victims of Hurricane Katrina argue with members of the National Guard as they attempt to board buses headed for the Houston Astrodome.</td>
<td>1 p.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
A911  Steve Almond  
**A Top Secret Chocolate Situation (2004)**  
Big chocolate companies have only one original product: the recipe. Thus chocolate espionage dates back to Mr. Hershey’s original taste of a chocolate bar at an early World’s Fair. He visited candy makers in Europe to get recipes and created the first chocolate. **12 pp.**

A688  Jonathan Alter  
**Time to Think About Torture (2001)**  
A journalist for a popular weekly news magazine argues that in the aftermath of the September 11 attacks, the United States government should reconsider its total ban on torture. **4 pp.**

A092  Julia Alvarez  
**El Doctor (1998)**  
Julia Alvarez describes her father’s struggles to leave his Dominican Republic roots while also championing himself as a descendant of the conquerors of South America. **11 pp.**

A689  Julia Alvarez  
**Trespass (1991)**  
In this story, a young girl from the Dominican Republic struggles to adapt to life in the United States and come to terms with her advance toward adulthood. **11 pp.**

A673  Wolfgang Ammer  
**Cartoon: Globalization (2003)**  
A cartoonist depicts a couple going about their home routines as a monstrous globe threatens to invade their domestic tranquility. **1 p.**

A383  Maya Angelou  
**Caged Bird (1969)**  
In this prelude to her autobiographical novel *I Know Why the Caged Bird Sings*, Angelou artfully describes the frustration and aspirations of one who cannot escape from captivity. **2 pp.**

A197  Maya Angelou  
**Champion of the World (1969)**  
In a vivid and ironic description of Joe Louis’ fight for the heavyweight championship of the world, Maya Angelou recreates the feel of Uncle Willie’s store and the power of people’s hopes and fears. **4 pp.**

A093  Maya Angelou  
**Finishing School (1969)**  
To explain the young black girl’s finishing school, Angelou describes her childhood experience as a cook’s assistant in a rich white woman’s house. **6 pp.**

A001  Maya Angelou  
**Graduation (1969)**  
Angelou describes her eighth grade graduation, the occasion when she first understood the economic and social barriers facing African Americans. **12 pp.**

A787  Anonymous  
**Abu Ghraib and the Question of Torture (2006)**  
An infamous photograph from Abu Ghraib finds its way to the Internet, creates a scandal, and sets off a national debate. **1 p.**

A793  Anonymous  
**Perceptions of Feminine Beauty (1950/2003)**  
Theses images show the contrast between a picture of a woman in a bathing suit in the fifties and a woman in a bathing suit as shown in contemporary photography. **3 pp.**

A161  Susan B. Anthony  
**Women’s Right to Vote (1872)**  
Early women’s rights advocate Susan B. Anthony argues for the right of women to vote and reveals the injustice of their legal status in her day. **8 pp.**

A162  Gloria Anzaldúa  
**How to Tame a Wild Tongue (1987)**  
Chicana writer Gloria Anzaldúa describes the loss and rediscovery of her “wild tongue,” her language, and her accent. **12 pp.**

A558  Elizabeth Arnold  
**The New Wilderness Land Grab (1999)**  
In this brief article, Arnold profiles the attempts of “green activists” to reenergize the idea of wilderness designation. **7 pp.**

A322  Matthew Arnold  
**Dover Beach (1867)**  
This emblematic poem characterizes what a hundred years later would come to be called “post-modernism”: the loss of faith and certainty. **2 pp.**
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<tr>
<td>A626</td>
<td>Elizabeth Ashe</td>
<td><em>The Devastation is Terrible</em> (1919)</td>
<td>At the end of World War I, an American Red Cross nurse chronicles the utter devastation of the French countryside, praises the war's unsung heroes, and condemns those who oppose the formation of the League of Nations.</td>
<td>4 pp</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>A003</td>
<td>Isaac Asimov</td>
<td><em>What Is Intelligence, Anyway?</em> (1992)</td>
<td>Different types of intelligence have different measures and different uses; Isaac Asimov shows his admiration of manual dexterity and his reservations about his own high verbal IQ.</td>
<td>2 pp</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>A801</td>
<td>Reza Aslan</td>
<td><em>Slouching Toward Medina: The Islamic Reformation</em> (2005)</td>
<td>An Iranian-American scholar argues that Islam not only can be but must be the foundation on which democracy spreads throughout the Middle East.</td>
<td>17 pp</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>A666</td>
<td>Margaret Atwood</td>
<td><em>Death by Landscape</em> (1998)</td>
<td>Two young girls bond deeply at summer camp; one girl dies, leaving the other forever haunted by her memory.</td>
<td>18 pp</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>A004</td>
<td>Margaret Atwood</td>
<td><em>The Female Body</em> (1992)</td>
<td>A montage of references to the female form, this essay ultimately represents the commodification and exploitation of women's bodies and the alienation of men's brains.</td>
<td>4 pp</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>A802</td>
<td>Margaret Atwood</td>
<td><em>A Letter to America</em> (2003)</td>
<td>A noted Canadian writer expresses deep concerns regarding the Iraq war, American civil liberties, and the United States economy, worrying about the impact of U.S. domestic and foreign policy on the entire world.</td>
<td>4 pp</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>A094</td>
<td>Margaret Atwood</td>
<td><em>Pornography</em> (1988)</td>
<td>Canadian writer Margaret Atwood attempts to define pornography but notes that the word has taken many different meanings in modern culture.</td>
<td>7 pp</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>A392</td>
<td>W. H. Auden</td>
<td><em>Museé des Beaux Arts</em> (1938)</td>
<td>Auden reflects upon life during a visit to an art museum while contemplating works by The Old Masters.</td>
<td>2 pp</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>A912</td>
<td>W.H. Auden</td>
<td><em>The Unknown Citizen</em> (1940)</td>
<td>Auden writes this poem in the midst of a dark time in British and American history. He mimics the kinds of things that are said about unknown soldiers, but this description is far more somber and much less respectful.</td>
<td>2 pp</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>A443</td>
<td>Steven N. Austad</td>
<td><em>Pushing the Envelope</em> (2000)</td>
<td>In this review of <em>Life at the Extremes: The Science of Survival</em> by Frances Ashcroft and <em>Science at the Extreme: Scientists on the Cutting Edge of Discovery</em> by Peter Lane Taylor, Austad describes the various ways in which humans stress themselves, and the reasons they do it.</td>
<td>4 pp</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>A005</td>
<td>Francis Bacon</td>
<td><em>Of Studies</em> (1600s)</td>
<td>In this seventeenth-century gem, Sir Francis Bacon extols the erudite life in perfectly balanced phrases and nicely turned sentences.</td>
<td>2 pp</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>A803</td>
<td>Patricia A. Baird and Chris MacDonald</td>
<td><em>Should Human Cloning Be Permitted? and Yes, Human Cloning Should be Permitted</em> (2000)</td>
<td>A professor of medical genetics, Patricia Baird, presents a strong and unequivocal argument against human cloning. In a second article, a philosopher of ethics, Chris MacDonald, responds to Baird's opposition to human cloning, arguing for caution rather than an outright ban.</td>
<td>12 pp</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>A200</td>
<td>Russell Baker</td>
<td><em>Growing Up</em> (1982)</td>
<td>Writer and critic Russell Baker describes his experience of trying to develop gumption as a salesperson and ending up as a writer—an occupation that clearly does not require any gumption at all.</td>
<td>8 pp</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>A006</td>
<td>Russell Baker</td>
<td><em>Little Red Riding Hood Revisited</em> (1980)</td>
<td>Former news reporter Russell Baker satirizes a certain kind of overwriting common to newscasting and other kinds of public presentation, including political speeches.</td>
<td>3 pp</td>
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</tbody>
</table>
A007 Russell Baker
*School vs. Education* (1975)
Russell Baker notes that the real purpose of school is to train a citizen who will fit in, possibly even succeed, but who will begin to be educated only on his or her own and probably long after leaving school. 3 pp.

A008 James Baldwin
*Autobiographical Notes* (1988)
Coming to know himself as a writer, James Baldwin searched through the heritage of his reading, his community, Europe, and Africa, only to learn that his heritage had always been the montage of American culture. 6 pp.

A009 James Baldwin
*The Discovery of What It Means to Be an American* (1989)
While living in Paris, James Baldwin discovers what it means to be an American writer—and perhaps what it means to move through and across social classes and cultures. 6 pp.

A010 James Baldwin
*If Black English Isn’t a Language, Then Tell Me, What Is?* (1979)
Baldwin argues that Black English has its own pure form, which has influenced all forms of American English and continues to define and explain the whole of American speech. 4 pp.

A627 James Baldwin
*Notes of a Native Son* (1955)
Using the day on which both his father died and his youngest sister was born as a focal point, an African-American essayist explores the volatile issue of race relations in the United States during World War II. 21 pp.

A201 James Baldwin
*Sonny’s Blues* (1965)
A brother’s descent into personal problems reminds a man not only of his daughter’s and his uncle’s deaths, but also that a musician can find himself in music. 31 pp.

A804 James Balwin
*A Talk to Teachers* (1963)
In this talk to teachers, Baldwin tells teachers of minority students the truth about their students’ experiences. He talks tough in order to make clear that things needed to change or trouble would follow. 9 pp.

A011 Toni Cade Bambara
*The Lesson* (1972)
Bambara recreates the world of childhood and initiation by describing a day trip to F.A.O. Schwartz, a lesson that leaves the young narrator perplexed and challenged. 8 pp.

A379 Russell Banks
*My Mother’s Memoirs, My Father’s Lie, and Other True Stories* (1956)
Every family has its own lore. In this story, Russell Banks offers an account of one family’s tales and a son’s attempt to sift through their meaning. 8 pp.

A096 John Perry Barlow
*Is There a There in Cyberspace?* (1995)
In the search for a caring community, Barlow investigates similarities and differences between and among Dead Heads, cyberspace, and his hometown of Pinedale, Wyoming, concluding that all are communities of various types. 8 pp.

A612 Maude Barlow
Barlow reports that as the world moves toward increased globalization, the value of natural resources will be on the rise. This situation will give those who have control over resources, such as water, more economic and political power. 7 pp.

A805 Dave Barry
*Genes Cleaned and Starched, While You Wait* (2000)
Dave Barry’s wit and satire have delighted readers at all levels and of all ages for over twenty years. This essay has fun with the recent deciphering of the human genome and the implications of this achievement for humanity. 3 pp.

A914 Dave Barry
Barry explains the difference between Men and guys. Men often do bad things to prove their manliness. Guys are just clueless about mostly everything. Women make the rules, but guys can’t remember what these rules are. 6 pp.

A202 Dave Barry
*A Hairy Experience* (1994)
Humorist Dave Barry suggests the ideal vacation theme: hairballs across America. 3 pp.
<table>
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<th>Dave Barry</th>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Just Say No to Rugs (1991)</strong></td>
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</tr>
<tr>
<td>Humorist Dave Barry outdoes himself in this essay about the hostility of dogs toward expensive carpets, parrots toward their owners, and cats toward almost everyone. <strong>3 pp.</strong></td>
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<th>Dave Barry</th>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Mr. Language Person Takes Some of Your Questions (1999)</strong></td>
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<tr>
<td>Barry gives helpful hints on writing business letters, providing definitions for such words as “compunction,” and pointing out distinctive uses of homonyms like “your” and “yore.” <strong>4 pp.</strong></td>
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<tr>
<th>A690</th>
<th>James Barszcz</th>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Can You Be Educated From a Distance? (2003)</strong></td>
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<tr>
<td>An employee of the telecommunications industry and former college teacher questions whether the terms “distance” and “education” go hand in hand. <strong>4 pp.</strong></td>
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<tr>
<th>A394</th>
<th>Donald Barthelme</th>
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<tr>
<td><strong>The Piano Player (1990)</strong></td>
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<tr>
<td>A married couple has a conversation so fragmented in style that readers are bound to find it akin to a verbal form of modern art. <strong>4 pp.</strong></td>
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<tr>
<th>A691</th>
<th>Bruce Bartlett</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Bartlett argues that a living wage for some would mean poverty for others and that such a wage would drive up taxes for still others. This conservative view of wage-tax relationships expresses the strong feelings of economists who hold these views. <strong>3 pp.</strong></td>
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<tr>
<th>A395</th>
<th>Mary Catherine Bateson</th>
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<tr>
<td><strong>We Are Our Own Metaphor (1794)</strong></td>
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<tr>
<td>An eminent anthropologist discusses the ways that metaphors bind together social systems. <strong>4 pp.</strong></td>
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<tr>
<th>A344</th>
<th>Martha Bayles</th>
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<tr>
<td>Cultural critic Martha Bayles defends rock and roll from some of the many critics who have disparaged it. [Note that this essay refers to Allan Bloom’s “Music,” selection A250 in the Mercury Reader.] <strong>13 pp.</strong></td>
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<th>A795</th>
<th>Belfast Partisans</th>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Paramilitary Sniper: Belfast Political Wall Mural (1990)</strong></td>
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<tr>
<td>A Belfast mural features representatives of Protestant paramilitary groups, one of whom aims an automatic rifle at the viewer. <strong>4 pp.</strong></td>
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<tr>
<th>A789</th>
<th>Belfast Partisans</th>
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<tr>
<td>Two murals, one Catholic and one Protestant, commemorate victims of sectarian violence during Northern Ireland’s Troubles. <strong>2 pp.</strong></td>
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<tr>
<th>A608</th>
<th>Adam Bellow</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>In Praise of Nepotism (2003)</strong></td>
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<tr>
<td>Most people think of nepotism as a problem. Yet, the author argues, since society has regularly practiced nepotism, we may as well set about improving it with a more balanced approach. <strong>14 pp.</strong></td>
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<tr>
<th>A915</th>
<th>Drake Bennett</th>
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<tr>
<td><strong>NEW! The Imitation Economy (2010)</strong></td>
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<tr>
<td>Contrary to conventional wisdom, writes a <em>Boston Globe</em> journalist, it is often imitation rather than innovation that spurs economic growth and social development. <strong>7 pp.</strong></td>
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<tr>
<th>A249</th>
<th>William Bennett</th>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Should Drugs Be Legalized? (1990)</strong></td>
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<tr>
<td>Conservative spokesman William Bennett argues that legalizing drugs would harm large sectors of the neediest groups in the population. <strong>6 pp.</strong></td>
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<tr>
<th>A542</th>
<th>Arthur Asa Berger</th>
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<tr>
<td><strong>The Comics (1996)</strong></td>
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<tr>
<td>Berger, who teaches broadcast communication Arts at San Francisco State University, offers an academic analysis of comic strips. <strong>10 pp.</strong></td>
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<tr>
<th>A916</th>
<th>Ira Berlin</th>
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<tr>
<td>A prominent historian explores the ways in which waves of immigration from Africa and the Caribbean have expanded the definition of the term “African-American,” which no longer refers exclusively to descendants of slaves. <strong>6 pp.</strong></td>
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</table>
A917 Wendell Berry  
**NEW! Faustian Economics: Hell Hath No Limits (2008)**  
A well-known writer and environmentalist challenges America’s attitude toward energy resources as delusional. As the title of this selection suggests, this attitude will have the gravest consequences for the planet. 11 pp.

A918 Michael Bérubé  
**NEW! Genetic Destiny (1988)**  
Society has not treated slow learners with kindness or even with linguistic fairness. Down syndrome children have, until relatively recently, been outcasts of society, but Bérubé argues, they have an important mission for the human race. 9 pp.

A012 Bruno Bettelheim  
**Fairy Tales and Modern Stories (1975)**  
Famous psychologist Bruno Bettelheim argues that fairy tales give children comfort when more “sensible” stories would offer little. 4 pp.

A097 Bruno Bettelheim  
**The Holocaust (1975)**  
Famous psychologist Bruno Bettelheim argues that the word “holocaust” is an example of technical language meant to distance the uninvolved; he argues further that the victims were not martyrs since they could not have chosen their victimization. 4 pp.

A693 The Bible  
**The Sermon on the Mount**  
The Sermon on the Mount occurs after Jesus has been debating with the wise and educated men in the city. He goes out to the countryside to meditate and pray, but the people follow him even to his resting place. There he gives them a summary of his ideas and of his agenda for salvation. 7 pp.

A692 The Bible  
**The Ten Commandments**  
The Ten Commandments present a description of rules that will lead to a happy and productive life. The rules tend to have the same basic concepts of all great societies and religions: Give praise and be thankful for what you have received; keep your priorities clear so that you stay in touch with the divine; pay attention to your parents’ advice; do not break the basic rules of society that keep everyone safe and civil. 4 pp.

A694 Ambrose Bierce  
**An Occurrence at Owl Creek Bridge (1891)**  
In a vivid tale of a military execution, an American writer captures the chilling and poignant impact of the Civil War on one man. 10 pp.

A203 Ambrose Bierce  
**Some Devil's Definitions (1906)**  
Cutting humor characterizes the various definitions in this wicked dictionary from a famous American frontier writer, Ambrose Bierce. 4 pp.

A098 Caroline Bird  
**The Case Against College (1975)**  
Caroline Bird argues that college is not for everyone; in fact, that it may be an unreasonable expense for the young person who does not intend to study or in other ways profit by the experience. 4 pp.

A806 Sven Birkerts  
**Into the Electronic Millennium (1994)**  
Birkerts provides several critiques of the electronic age, noting especially a decline in a particular type of literacy. His perspectives will provide the postmodern reader with challenges and questions. 10 pp.

A314 Elizabeth Bishop  
**The Fish (1946)**  
In Bishop’s poem, a flash of insight prompts a fisher to let her grizzled catch go free. 3 pp.

A562 Neil Bissoondath  
**“I’m Not Racist But . . .” (1989)**  
A Canadian author born in Trinidad questions the assumption that all ethnically insensitive language derives from racism, arguing that true racism results from embracing stereotypes. 3 pp.

A807 Neil Bissoondath  
A journalist explains why he considers that religious faith and spirituality can be mutually exclusive, arguing that it is possible to be spiritual without believing in God. 3 pp.

A808 Jane Black  
**The Perils and Promise of Online Schmoozing (2004)**  
Social networks online provide the opportunity to meet and communicate with those who have interests similar to one’s own. The problem, though, is that these sites can share information with other sites so that soon personal information can and does spread worldwide. 3 pp.
<table>
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<tr>
<th>Code</th>
<th>Author</th>
<th>Title</th>
<th>Description</th>
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<tr>
<td>A396</td>
<td>William Blake</td>
<td><em>The Tyger (1794)</em></td>
<td>The famous English poet explores innocence, fear, and experience with lambs and tigers “in the forests of the night.”</td>
<td>2 pp.</td>
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</table>
| A250   | Allan Bloom             | *Music (1987)*                                                       | Cultural commentator Allan Bloom argues that rock music is objectionable because it offers cheap thrills for the young, therefore allowing them to miss the glories of difficult achievements.                       | 14 pp.
| A919   | Paul Bloom              | NEW! *In Science We Trust (2009)*                                    | Humans tend to trust authorities and give these authorities even more credence than either logic or experience. Thus, thinking on evolution tends to be muddled by almost everyone, whether by accepters of the theory or doubters, because thinking on either side rests on the acceptance of authority rather than on analysis and evaluation. | 8 pp. |
| A313   | Deborah Blum            | *The Gender Blur (1997)*                                             | While most people understand that sex roles are influenced by both biology and environment, explains science writer Deborah Blum, many are unaware that biological determination of sex is not as precise as we may think. | 9 pp. |
| A251   | Robert Bly              | *Naiveté (1990)*                                                     | In this excerpt from the book *Iron John*, poet Robert Bly describes the behavior and the isolation of the naive man and suggests a solution for the condition.                                             | 4 pp. |
| A164   | Sissela Bok             | *Lies for the Public Good (1978)*                                    | Philosopher Sissela Bok investigates the concept of government lies told to protect the public from unpleasant or hurtful truths and concludes that no such lie is acceptable.                          | 10 pp.|
| A494   | Tadeusz Borowski        | *This Way for the Gas, Ladies and Gentlemen (1992)*                 | The dehumanization of prisoners in Nazi concentration camps is illustrated in this story of inmates who prey on those destined for the gas chambers.                                                            | 18 pp.|
| A204   | Haig A. Bosmajian        | *The Dehumanization of the Indian (1973)*                           | Bosmajian briefly describes how words can dehumanize and brutalize a people: Indian giver, Indian problem.                                                                                                   | 2 pp. |
| A809   | Johannes Borgstein      | *The Poetry of Genetics (1998)*                                      | Borgstein, a German professor, questions the possibility that the human genome will ever be completely understood. He uses an analogy to the way that language works to show how complex the genome research and application will actually be. | 5 pp. |
| A397   | David Bottoms           | *Sign for My Father, Who Stressed the Bunt (1998)*                   | The passage of years allows a poet at last to understand the reasons for his father's insistence on learning how to bunt—in life as well as in baseball.                                                        | 2 pp. |
| A398   | Bruce Bower             | *Chimps May Put Their Own Spin on Culture (1998)*                   | In creating their own community attitudes and values and teaching them to their young, Bower reports that animals may develop cultures just as do humans.                                                        | 3 pp. |
| A920   | Bruce Bower             | NEW! *Gambling on Experience (2010)*                                | Gamblers and parents find it difficult to decide what the odds are in any given situation and may therefore go against statistical predictability. Culture appears to make a difference as examples from Israel and India indicate. | 9 pp. |
| A531   | Ray Bradbury            | *And the Rock Cried Out (1953)*                                     | The well-known science-fiction writer describes a millennialist nightmare of being lost in the Third World.                                                                                                 | 23 pp.|

Denotes image.  
Berry—Bradbury
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A696 Ray Bradbury
There Will Come Soft Rains (1950)
This story, first published in Colliers magazine May 6, 1950, revolves around a house that was built to withstand nuclear blasts and to run itself for human convenience. The house stands, but the family is burned into the outer wall by a blast. The house ends the tale by reading Sara Teasdale’s poem about the world without humans. 7 pp.

A013 Judy Brady
Why I Want a Wife (1970)
In this nearly classic piece, Judy Brady drives home the shocking differences between the marital expectations for women and for men. 3 pp.

A921 Scott Bransford
Camping for Their Lives (2009)
A California journalist explores the growing phenomenon of tent cities, profiling residents and advocating for more progressive governmental responses to the issue of affordable housing. 7 pp.

A485 Margie Brauer
Letter to Bank Trustee, William Yaeger (1997)
In this letter to the bank trustee overseeing the foreclosure of her family farm, a woman tries to humanize the plight of farmers left destitute after the 1979 grain embargo. 4 pp.

A165 Michael Bronski
Magic and AIDS: Presumed Innocent (1992)
Activist and reporter Michael Bronski notes how AIDS patients are divided by society into the innocent and the guilty, depending on the means of communication of the disease. 12 pp.

A615 David Brooks
The Culture of Martyrdom: How Suicide Bombing Became Not Just a Means but an End (2002)
Brooks, a senior editor at The Atlantic, briefly traces the increase in suicide bombings in the recent past. He profiles the suicide bomber and analyzes the culture that supports these people. 6 pp.

A697 David Brooks
The Merits of Meritocracy (2002)
Children of the privileged must work very hard for what they have and for what they get. Brooks uses the example of his daughter to show how busy she is and how she will have to compete to get into a great school and to find a greater job after school. 6 pp.

A319 Gwendolyn Brooks
We Real Cool (1966)
In her famous poem, Brooks characterizes the arrogance and bravado of the young. 1 p.

A901 Rosa Brooks
Obama and the World (2008)
A columnist for the Los Angeles Times explores the implications of Barack Obama’s election to relations between the United States and the rest of the world. 3 pp.

A456 Raven J. Brown
A web page from The Aviary (“a site devoted to Ravens, Crows, and the rest of the Corvidae”) discusses the scientific differences between old-world and new-world crows. 3 pp.

A014 Susan Brownmiller
Femininity (1984)
Irony and anger flow quietly through Susan Brownmiller’s short essay on the willingness of women to create themselves in the image of their culture. 2 pp.

A252 Amy Bruckman
Finding One’s Own Space in Cyberspace (1996)
Media researcher Amy Bruckman advises Web users to search until they find the right group or community so that they will not waste time in bad company with bad manners. 11 pp.

A166 William F. Buckley, Jr.
Why Don’t We Complain? (1963)
Famed conservative William F. Buckley analyzes the timidity of Americans in the face of such horrors as an overheated rail car and an unfocused movie. 7 pp.

A341 Stephen Budiansky
Lost in Translation (1998)
Problems abound with language translation software, explains Stephen Budiansky, because computers do not possess something most humans take for granted: common sense. 10 pp.

A463 Michelangelo Bunoarroti
Creazione di Adamo (1500)
This painting of God’s creation of Adam from the Sistine Chapel ceiling counts among the most famous religious and symbolic images in human history. 2 pp.
A528 Solomon D. Butcher
*Photograph of Family in Front of the Fred Lange House (1910)*
A photo from the beginning of the twentieth century depicts a family in Nebraska with their automobile. 2 pp.

A355 William H. Calvin
*The Great Climate Flip-Flop (1998)*
Presenting a chilling scenario, neurobiologist William H. Calvin offers a unique argument that global warming could actually lead to extreme global cooling with dire consequences. 18 pp.

A671 Paul Campos
*Modern Witch Hunts Fueled by Irrational Fear, Media (2003)*
Media attention on various illnesses and sexual crimes has sometimes resulted in misdiagnoses and even jail sentences for innocent persons. Law professor Paul Campos questions the sensationalism attached to current sexual abuse cases. 3 pp.

A205 Albert Camus
*The Myth of Sisyphus (1955)*
Recounting the tale of the cruel king of Corinth, whose punishment in Hades is to role a huge stone up a hill only to have it roll down again, Albert Camus suggests that the myth epitomizes the modern condition. 4 pp.

A563 Stevie Cameron
*Our Daughters, Ourselves (1990)*
In this reflection on the worst mass murder in Canada’s history, a journalist ponders the discrimination, fear, and abuse suffered by girls as they grow up—and the powerlessness of their mothers to protect them. 3 pp.

A698 Nancy Cantor
*Civic Engagement: The University as Public Good (2004)*
Civic engagement at a great public university requires many kinds of involvement, including work across colleges and departments and work across student boundaries. In this speech, Cantor explains her views of civic engagement and academic diversity. 12 pp.

A564 Emily Carr
*D'Sonoqua (1912)*
In an excerpt from her book *Klee Wyck* (1941), Emily Carr offers impressionistic accounts of her visits to remote Indian villages in British Columbia. 7 pp.

A206 Peggy Carlson
*Why We Don’t Need Animal Experimentation (1995)*
Medical researcher Peggy Carlson argues that real breakthroughs in medicine come from research using human subjects. 2 pp.

A810 James Carroll
*In the Valley of Bones (1996)*
A former priest recounts the story of how his first sermon, condemning the Vietnam War, alienates him from his pro-war father. 9 pp.

A168 Rachel Carson
*A Fable for Tomorrow (1962)*
Naturalist Rachel Carson describes the frightful world that will result if we do not do something about the abuse of the environment. 3 pp.

A169 Rachel Carson
*The Obligation to Endure (1962)*
Naturalist Rachel Carson brings to bear her abilities as a scientist on the need to consider the effects of expanding uses of chemicals on the environment. 7 pp.

A099 Raymond Carver
*My Father’s Life (1984)*
Resonating with sad nostalgia, writer Raymond Carver describes his father’s charm and weakness, while letting the reader know the pain of a child of such a father. 9 pp.

A329 Raymond Carver
*Cathedral (1983)*
Spending an evening with his wife’s blind friend, a man confronts his own self-imposed isolation and comes to view life in a new light. 15 pp.

A167 Lorene Cary
*Welcome to St. Paul’s (1991)*
African American Lorene Cary describes her arrival at the exclusive school that was to be the subject of her best-selling book *Black Ice*. 5 pp.

A399 Janice Castro with Dan Cook and Cristina Garcia
*Spanglish (1898)*
A unique language combination of Spanish and English, “Spanglish” causes reason to pause and question the definition of American English, and the influences it has on American culture. 3 pp.
A015  Bruce Catton  
*Grant and Lee: A Study in Contrast (1956)*  
Historian Bruce Catton shows how two great warriors—Ulysses S. Grant and Robert E. Lee—grew from different backgrounds, but shared profound qualities of courage, tenacity, and adaptability. 4 pp.

A092  Damien Cave  
*Generation O Gets Its Hopes Up (2008)*  
In this selection from the *New York Times*, Cave describes the significance of Barack Obama to the post-baby-boomer generation. The author explains how the new president fashioned his campaign and defined his appeal through the use of new-media tools, launching the post-boomer era in politics. 6 pp.

A312  CBS News Interactive  
*Olympic Drug Testing (2001)*  
This chart gives readers an overview of the enhanced use of performance drugs by Olympic athletes, showing that more athletes use drugs but that the percentage using drugs has decreased as the competitive numbers have increased. 2 pp.

A207  Linda Chavez  
*Demystifying Multiculturalism (1994)*  
Author Linda Chavez argues that multiculturalism is a creation of government policy and does not help people of various cultures in the United States. 7 pp.

A699  Linda Chavez  
*Everything Isn’t Racial Profiling (2002)*  
In this 2002 editorial, a well-known writer and public figure explores why some aspects of racial profiling may be necessary for the sake of security. 3 pp.

A100  Chief Seattle  
*Speech on the Signing of the Treaty of Port Elliott (1855)*  
Poignantly and ironically, Native-American leader Chief Seattle pleads for the fair treatment of his overwhelmed and defeated people. 4 pp.

A700  Kate Chopin  
*Désirée’s Baby (1893)*  
The happiness of an arrogant young aristocrat and his wife over the birth of their first child is shattered by shocking revelations. 7 pp.

A400  Kate Chopin  
*The Storm (1951)*  
A sudden, violent storm facilitates an adulterous encounter between two former sweethearts with unpredictable results. 6 pp.

A299  Kate Chopin  
*The Story of an Hour (1894)*  
Kate Chopin's famous and still resonant story of a consequence of misinformation provides a startling glimpse into the life of a traditional woman in the Victorian south. 4 pp.

A566  Wayson Choy  
*I’m a Banana and Proud of It (1990s)*  
A Canadian writer of Chinese parentage explains why he is more than comfortable with being referred to as a banana, “yellow on the outside and white inside.” 4 pp.

A477  Francis P. Church  
*Letter to Virginia O’Hanlon (1897)*  
In September 1897, eight-year-old Virginia O’Hanlon wrote to the editor of the *New York Sun*, asking the age-old childhood question, “Is there a Santa Claus?” The editor’s published reply has become a classic testimonial to the spirit of Christmas. 3 pp.

A922  Sandra Cisneros  
*NEW! Eleven (1991)*  
Sandra Cisneros captures the fears and anxieties of early adolescence through a young girl’s account of a humiliating episode on her eleventh birthday. 4 pp.

A495  Sandra Cisneros  
*The Monkey Garden (1984)*  
In this short story from *The House on Mango Street*, a young girl caught between childhood and adolescence seeks escape in an overgrown neighborhood garden. 4 pp.

A923  Sandra Cisneros  
*NEW! My Name (1989)*  
In a vignette from *The House on Mango Street*, a young Mexican-American girl expresses a desire for a name that more closely reflects her sense of herself. 2 pp.

A378  Arthur C. Clarke  
*The Star (1955)*  
A Jesuit priest’s faith is challenged by scientific discovery in this short story by popular science fiction novelist Arthur C. Clarke. 7 pp.
A701  Roger Clarke
*Lonesome Cowboys (2006)*
A British film critic explores the significance of Ang Lee’s Western film featuring a love relationship between two cowboys. 6 pp.

A628  John Cloud
*Guarding Death’s Door (2003)*
Concerned about the proliferation of errors in death penalty cases, a Texas district attorney establishes a pre-trial “death committee” to ensure that prosecutors seek capital punishment only when they are certain of the defender’s guilt. 13 pp.

A401  Arthur Hugh Clough
*The Latest Decalogue (1987)*
This poetic version of the Ten Commandments is a satirical comment on the ways that people actually interpret the commandments in everyday life. 2 pp.

A702  Helena Cobban
*International Courts (2006)*
An internationally syndicated journalist argues systematically that international courts fail to achieve any of their goals, and in fact sometimes set back the movement toward universal human rights. 7 pp.

A390  J.M. Coetzee
*Scenes from Provincial Life (1976)*
In this excerpt from his memoir, South African novelist J.M. Coetzee writes about the power an adult has over a child and the pain of adolescent confusion. 12 pp.

A101  Judith Ortiz Cofer
*Casa: A Partial Remembrance of a Puerto Rican Childhood*
Native Puerto Rican Judith Ortiz Cofer brings to life the tales her mother told of women left at the altar by unscrupulous men. 6 pp.

A016  Judith Ortiz Cofer
Cofer, whose Latin American ancestry often targets her for unwanted attention, describes the life of a girl growing up with cultural differences from mainstream expectations. 6 pp.

A703  Dorothy Cohen
*Elements of Effective Layout (1988)*
Taken from her textbook on advertising, Cohen explains the seven basic principles of effective design. 4 pp.

A924  Stephen Colbert, et al.
*NEW! Higher Education (2007)*
Higher Education costs both students and parents a great deal, but what is really acquired for all this money? A catalogue description and a short answer annotation of the college catalog illustrate pretty much all a students needs to know. The rest of the important information includes choosing and getting into the right school and then partying there for four years. 10 pp.

A253  Kirsten Cole
*Generation X (1993)*
Journalist Kirsten Cole describes the trials and tribulations of those who define themselves as Generation X members, especially noting their problems with college and employment. 5 pp.

A017  Robert Coles
*Children of Affluence (1977)*
Robert Coles, a social reformer and expert on children of poverty, contrasts the sense of entitlement common to rich children with the attitudes and values of other children. 11 pp.

A925  Billy Collins
*NEW! What’s American about American Poetry? (2008)*
Collins defines American poetry through the language of America, choosing Walt Whitman as the first implementer of that language in poetic form. Writers before Whitman followed European styles and language forms, but Whitman set the tone for American poets, Collins himself included. 7 pp.

A814  Laura Collins
*Friend Game (2008)*
Reporting on the suicide of thirteen-year-old Megan Meier, a staff writer for *The New Yorker* explores the ways in which social networking can exacerbate adolescent anxieties, sometimes with tragic results. 15 pp.
A478  Colored People of Massachusetts
Open Letter to President McKinley (1899)
Over thirty years after the end of the Civil War, a group of African Americans plead with
the president to use federal authority to stop discrimination and violence against Southern
blacks. 9 pp.

A704  Charles Colson
In this article from Christianity Today, the author
calls for a Federal Marriage Amendment as the
means to preserve the “natural moral order for
the family.” 3 pp.

A625  J. California Cooper
Sins Leave Scars (1992)
In Cooper’s short story, an African-American girl
named Lida Mae who grows up in poverty allows
money, sex, and alcohol to prevent her from
achieving an education and “her future.” 10 pp.

A402  Wyn Cooper
Fun (1987)
In the poem made famous by Cheryl Crow’s song
“All I Wanna Do,” Wyn Cooper’s narrator longs
for more while sitting in a dark bar on a Tuesday
afternoon. 2 pp.

A018  Aaron Copland
How We Listen to Music (1988)
Composer Aaron Copland classifies types of
reactions to music, noting that sensation and
expression still do not express the “meaning” of
music. 6 pp.

A705  Javier Corrales
Hugo Boss (2006)
A political scientist analyzes the ways in which
Venezuelan President Hugo Chavez has created a
new form of authoritarianism, one that is already
influencing would-be dictators throughout Latin
America and the world. 10 pp.

A254  Bill Cosby
The Baffling Question (1986)
Comedian and author Bill Cosby questions why
anyone would willingly and knowingly become a
parent. 3 pp.

A815  Douglas Coupland
The Sun is Your Enemy (2003)
In this selection from Coupland’s novel
Generation X: Tales for an Accelerated Culture, the
author offers a brief exchange of three friends in
the California desert discussing their answers to
the question, “What do you think of when you see
the sun?” 3 pp.

A444  Ron Cowen
Through the Looking Glass: Reflections on a
Mirror Universe (2000)
Cowen reviews a variety of recent physics essays
revealing that the universe may not be what it
seems. 7 pp.

A816  James Crawford
These charts show the increase in people who
speak a language other than English at home in
the United States and the even larger increase in
speakers who do not feel confident in their use
of English. The report suggests that the increase
both in immigration and birth rates among new
immigrants contributes to these numbers. 10 pp.

A676  Erin Currier
Widows (2003)
“I’m politically active through my art. That’s how
I express my beliefs,” artist Erin Currier says
about her work. In this example of political
art from her “Liberation Series,” we are made
witnesses to the power of art to explore the
human condition. 2 pp.

A356  Dinesh D’Souza
How Reagan Won the Cold War (1997)
D’Souza, a popular conservative academic,
credits the former President with the end of the
Cold War and the fall of the Soviet Union. 13 pp.

A170  Dinesh D’Souza
The Visigoths in Tweed (1991)
Conservative writer Dinesh D’Souza describes
current liberal arts education as a neo-Marxist
ideology of multiculturalism and calls for a return
to a type of education of which conservatives can
approve. 11 pp.
A616 Dinesh D'Souza
What's So Great about America (2002)
In recent years, the United States has been criticized for supporting dictators around the world. D'Souza, a Research Fellow at the Hoover Institution, answers this charge by reminding readers that, unlike some world powers, the influence of the United States has always been exerted in the name of democracy. 5 pp.

A706 Dalai Lama
The Ethic of Compassion (1999)
Compassion seems good when first considered, for it is easy to feel compassion for one who suffers. Compassion is harder to muster for the wealthy and powerful people among us and even harder to feel when true compassion may lead to a career change or an even greater life upheaval. 7 pp.

A707 Theodore Dalrymple
It's Time to Get Serious (2006)
A conservative British writer takes a controversial stand on the violent Muslim protests against the Danish cartoons and on what he considers the cowardly lack of response from the West. 5 pp.

A367 Edwidge Danticat
Women Like Us (1996)
Despite the condemnation of women writers in her culture, a young author dreams of calling up the voices of hundreds of female ancestors by putting their words on paper. 4 pp.

A708 John M. Darley & Bibb Latané
Why People Don't Help in a Crisis (1970)
People do care about one another, but fear often keeps them from acting. Also, groups tend to react much more slowly than individual people, so that one person might run to help whereas those in a group may hesitate as they wait for someone to lead. 7 pp.

A171 Clarence Darrow
Address to the Prisoners in the Cook County Jail (1902)
Lawyer Clarence Darrow explains to a group of prisoners that they are in jail because they are poor and that their crimes would have gone mostly unpunished had they been rich. 11 pp.

A019 Charles Darwin
Understanding Natural Selection (1859)
Scientist Charles Darwin posits a force of nature that controls genetic direction for all animals and that works as a strong force in social and developmental pre-dispositions. 7 pp.

A568 Robertson Davies
A Few Kind Words for Superstition (1978)
One of Canada's foremost writers of plays, novels, and satire defines superstition and discusses "its four manifestations." 4 pp.

A602 Don DeLillo
Videotape (1997)
In this short story that explores our culture's obsession with spectacle, a child riding in a car accidentally videotapes a murder. 6 pp.

A172 Vine Deloria, Jr.
We Talk, You Listen (1970)
Native American activist Vine Deloria, Jr. describes the role of minorities in the movies and in the culture and notes how minorities themselves have believed these stereotypes to their own disadvantage. 9 pp.

A623 Benoit Denizet-Lewis
In this article from The New York Times Magazine, a journalist explores a subculture of black men who live straight lives while secretly engaging in homosexual activity. 19 pp.

A818 Bonnie Devet
The Day I Met Bruce Lee (2007)
A college professor, a punk-rocker couple, and a Chinese-American grandfather with his young teenage grandchildren share a moment of multicultural reflection at the gravesite of a martial-arts movie star. 5 pp.

A709 John Dewey
Thinking in Education (1916)
Schools tend to repress students, even to torture them by the furniture that is provided. This was the contention of John Dewey in the beginning of the last century. He notes that schools operate in ways that are meant to repress and to limit the thinking or action of students. 12 pp.

A324 Jared Diamond
The Ethnobiologist's Dilemma (1989)
This study of New Guinea tribesmen, who use different words for the same bird depending on the situation, shows that in every culture words and experiences vary greatly depending upon context. 9 pp.
Because I Could Not Stop for Death— (1862)
In this dark poem, which depicts Dickinson’s almost whimsical view of death, the grim reaper gathers a woman in his carriage and brings her to a “Swelling of the Ground.” 2 pp.

“After Life” from The Year of Magical Thinking (2005)
In this memoir from the New York Times, adapted from The Year of Magical Thinking, Didion recounts the death of her husband and offers her perspectives on death and grief. 20 pp.

In Bed (1979)
Joan Didion turns her powerful descriptive writing abilities on the experience of migraine headaches, showing the reader the symptoms and suggesting the despair of finding a cure. 4 pp.

Marrying Absurd (1967)
With her usual barbed commentary, Joan Didion describes the paradoxes of Las Vegas weddings, including the draft-dodging runs on wedding chapels in the ’60s and the hopeful pregnant children who rush to the timeless city in the sand. 4 pp.

On Going Home (1961)
Joan Didion captures the restless discomfort of the intellectual doomed to go home and never be at home; her daughter’s first birthday takes her back to her parents’ house, but leaves her unable to find a place for herself there. 4 pp.

On Keeping a Notebook (1961)
Joan Didion’s real writer’s notebook proves to be a hodgepodge of bits and pieces that have had small and large symbolic value in her life as a writer. 8 pp.

On Self-Respect (1961)
Not being elected to Phi Beta Kappa teaches Joan Didion the dangers of defining herself against the judgments of others; she notes that unless we value ourselves, we will forever try to play to others’ definitions of us. 5 pp.

Salvador (1983)
Essayist Joan Didion demonstrates the terror of terrorism with vivid descriptions of the body dumps in this country of the dead. 6 pp.

Why I Write (1961)
This particular writer writes to discover what she knows and to create the vivid pictures in which she lives; so says Joan Didion in this vivid essay of image and disclaimer, what she does do as a writer and what she does not. 7 pp.

An American Childhood (1987)
In a portrait any intellectual’s mother would love, Annie Dillard describes her mother’s intellectual gymnastics, recounting mindstretching antics involving everything from card games to household inventions. 8 pp.

The Chase (1987)
Running from an angry motorist, snowball throwers evade capture until they must face their accuser, the driver of a black Buick. 5 pp.

The Death of a Moth (1976)
Annie Dillard describes the fate of a moth that first flew into her candle fire and then burned as Dillard’s reading light for two hours. 4 pp.

In the Jungle (1982)
Annie Dillard shows that the jungle provides sharp contrasts between its gentle inhabitants and its beautiful and frightening natural phenomena, especially for a girl from the Midwest. 5 pp.

Seeing (1974)
Scientific and religious writer Annie Dillard combines her interests in this essay about the blind who regain their sight—and who occasionally see beyond this world into another. 8 pp.

So This Was Adolescence (1987)
Annie Dillard gives a lively and passionate description of the inner world of the exploding sensations of adolescence. 4 pp.
<table>
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<tr>
<th>A345</th>
<th>Brian Doherty</th>
<th>Those Who Can’t, Test (1998)</th>
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<td></td>
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<td>The SAT is ineffective as an indicator of academic aptitude but highly effective as a way of reinforcing social prejudices, argues libertarian Brian Doherty. 7 pp.</td>
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<th>A479</th>
<th>Eugene Dorgan</th>
<th>Cents and Sensibility (2000)</th>
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<td></td>
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<td>Dorgan, Associate Professor at the Art Institute of Boston/Lesley University, argues that the new U.S. currency bills and coins are significantly inferior to their predecessors. 5 pp.</td>
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<th>A255</th>
<th>Michael Dorris</th>
<th>Adam Goes to School (1989)</th>
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<td></td>
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<td>Essayist Michael Dorris describes his adopted son’s struggles with the results of fetal alcohol syndrome and Dorris's own unwillingness to admit the severity of the problems. 6 pp.</td>
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<th>A027</th>
<th>Frederick Douglass</th>
<th>Learning to Read and Write (1845)</th>
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<td></td>
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<td>Despite cruel mistreatment from a once kind mistress, Frederick Douglass manages to teach himself to read and then write by various sly means, including paying poor children to teach him and later copying from his young master's own copy book. 6 pp.</td>
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<th>A819</th>
<th>Frederick Douglass</th>
<th>What to the Slave is the Fourth of July? (1852)</th>
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<td></td>
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<td>In a fiery 1852 address to New York abolitionists on the Fourth of July, a prominent former slave condemns the United States for continuing to tolerate the enslavement of human beings. 5 pp.</td>
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<th>A820</th>
<th>James Downey</th>
<th>2000 Thoughts: A Liberal Education Is Key to a Civil Society (2000)</th>
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<td></td>
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<td>Downey muses on the loss of the liberal education in universities in North America, especially in Canada. He suggests that the humanities in particular have lost their missions and purposes. 3 pp.</td>
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<th>A903</th>
<th>Bob Drogin and Maeve Reston</th>
<th>How the Election was Won—and Lost (2008)</th>
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<td>Two reporters for the Los Angeles Times analyze the failure of John McCain’s 2008 presidential campaign. 5 pp.</td>
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<th>A559</th>
<th>W.E.B. Du Bois</th>
<th>The Immediate Program of the American Negro (1913)</th>
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<td></td>
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<td>Du Bois, one of the great scholars on race in the early twentieth century, offers this plan to assure blacks civil rights. 2 pp.</td>
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<th>A548</th>
<th>Marcel Duchamp</th>
<th>L. H. O. O. Q. (1919)</th>
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<tr>
<td></td>
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<td>In this famous twentieth-century painting, the founder of the Dada movement reproduces Leonardo Da Vinci's Mona Lisa with the addition of a mustache. 2 pp.</td>
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<th>A480</th>
<th>Paul Laurence Dunbar</th>
<th>Letter to Alice Ruth Moore (1895)</th>
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<td></td>
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<td>While on a speaking tour in London, an African-American writer expresses his undying love to his sweetheart in New York. 3 pp.</td>
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<tr>
<th>A173</th>
<th>Esther Dyson</th>
<th>Cyberspace: If You Don’t Love It, Leave It (1995)</th>
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<td></td>
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<td>Futurist Esther Dyson clearly defines and delimits the virtual real estate of cyberspace, arguing that it is here to stay despite futile efforts to control this new phenomenon. 5 pp.</td>
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<td>In this wide-ranging essay, Gerald Early, a professor at Washington University, discusses the inescapable link between professional sports and race matters. 21 pp.</td>
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<th>A712</th>
<th>The Economist</th>
<th>Cartoon Wars (2006)</th>
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<td></td>
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<td>An internationally respected liberal newspaper argues that in the wake of the violent protests over the Danish cartoons, Western governments must take a strong stand in support of free speech. 4 pp.</td>
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<td>In this two-part special report, The Economist uses the response to the Danish cartoons and the conviction of a British imam to explore issues surrounding the gulf between Islam and the West. 8 pp.</td>
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<td>Page 24</td>
<td>MERCURY READER</td>
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| **A713** | **The Economist**  
*Slobodan Milosevic Obituary (2006)*  
In this obituary for the infamous Serbian leader, an internationally respected liberal newspaper examines how an ordinary bureaucrat transformed himself into a notorious war criminal. **4 pp.** |
| **A714** | **The Economist**  
*Tales from the Back Office (2006)*  
An internationally respected liberal newspaper concludes that reporting corporate wrongdoing remains a dangerous practice for employees, but increased legal protection and advances in computer technology may result in a safer environment for whistleblowers. **4 pp.** |
| **A715** | **The Economist**  
*War Crimes: Bringing the Wicked to the Dock (2006)*  
An internationally respected liberal newspaper debates the value of the UN-sponsored International Courts of Justice, established in 1993 to prosecute the most heinous crimes against humanity, as opposed to truth and reconciliation commissions such as those in post-apartheid South Africa. **5 pp.** |
| **A601** | **Dave Eggers**  
*The Only Meaning of the Oil-Wet Water (2003)*  
Invited to a tropical resort by an old male friend, a woman explores the mysteries of physical attraction, love, and the elements. **27 pp.** |
| **A175** | **Barbara Ehrenreich**  
*Kiss Me, I'm Gay (1992)*  
Ehrenreich argues for the simple acceptance of all people for what they are and for the rights of all to express affection naturally and easily. **3 pp.** |
| **A028** | **Barbara Ehrenreich**  
*The Myth of Man as Hunter (1993)*  
Turning the tables on our assumptions, Barbara Ehrenreich notes that humans have been “prey” for far longer than they have been hunters and that nature still lurks in the form of bad weather and big rivers. **3 pp.** |
| **A716** | **Barbara Ehrenreich**  
*Serving in Florida (2001)*  
In this excerpt from *Nickel and Dimed: On (Not) Getting By in America*, a well-known writer embarks on an experiment starting a low-wage life. In doing so, she learns much about the people she encounters and about herself. **21 pp.** |
| **A256** | **Barbara Ehrenreich**  
*Spudding Out (1990)*  
Ehrenreich defines the reason Americans are couch potatoes and searches for the cause of the ironic fact that no character on TV ever watches TV. **3 pp.** |
| **A927** | **Barbara Ehrenreich**  
*NEW! What Abu Ghraib Taught Me (2004)*  
Ehrenreich contemplates the shock of seeing a young female soldier participating in the torture of an Arab soldier. She notes that women often display less than gentle, compassionate natures and that this photo has announced that truth to the world. **4 pp.** |
| **A106** | **Barbara Ehrenreich**  
*What I've Learned from Men (1985)*  
Ehrenreich argues that women learn to imitate the male manner of becoming both insistent and angry. **5 pp.** |
| **A212** | **Gretel Ehrlich**  
*About Men (1985)*  
Western writer Gretel Ehrlich describes the qualities that make up a cowboy, including both his toughness and his interior fragility. **4 pp.** |
| **A213** | **Gretel Ehrlich**  
*The Western Code (1985)*  
Gretel Ehrlich, a westerner by birth and by choice, defines the paradox of fierce individuality and equally firm loyalty that makes up the code of the West. **2 pp.** |
| **A029** | **Lars Eighner**  
*On Dumpster Diving (1993)*  
Adventurer and sometime street person Lars Eighner, describes the experience of living out of dumpsters and comments on the meaning of refuse in America. **13 pp.** |
| **A613** | **Albert Einstein**  
*What is the Theory of Relativity? (1919)*  
In 1919, Einstein was invited by the London Times to explain to a general audience his famous theory on “the law of gravitation and its relation to other forces of nature.” **5 pp.** |
| **A174** | **Loren Eiseley**  
*The Brown Wasps (1971)*  
In an essay that moves the heart, anthropologist Loren Eiseley notes the ability of both humans and other animals to hold an image in the mind, despite the proof of reality. **8 pp.** |
A452 Queen Elizabeth
Speech to Her Last Parliament (1601)
Delivered in the last years of her life, Elizabeth asks her Parliament in this 1601 speech to understand that she works untiringly for them and reminds them that “though you have had many mightier and wiser princes, you never had nor shall have any that will love you better.” 2 pp.

A320 Ralph Ellison
Battle Royal (1948)
A young black man confronts the worst excesses of white male society on the night he thought he was to be honored by it. 15 pp.

A257 Ralph Ellison
Living With Music (1953)
Ralph Ellison compares playing the trumpet to writing books and concludes that both provide escape and pleasure at some price to the practitioner. 9 pp.

A258 Philip Elmer-DeWitt
Welcome to Cyberspace (1995)
News reporter Elmer-deWitt defines the phenomenon of cyberspace and all its attendant parts such as the Web, the Net, and the Datasphere. 9 pp.

A717 Ralph Waldo Emerson
On Education (1860)
This essay which was originally a speech tells the parent to allow a child to learn and grow the natural way, not imposing rules and regulations, asking only that the child read good literature; respect the child's own inclinations and abilities; introduce the child to nature; and exercise patience. Those are the precepts of Emerson's educational system. 9 pp.

A569 Garry Engkent
Why My Mother Can't Speak English (1995)
A Chinese-Canadian writer explores the cultural forces that prevented his immigrant mother from learning English and embracing Canadian culture. 8 pp.

A481 Olaudah Equiano
Journey into Slavery (1789)
A young slave, considering himself fortunate to be owned by a compassionate master, describes the torments facing most slaves in the eighteenth-century West Indies. 18 pp.

A214 Louise Erdrich
Adam (1989)
Based on her experience with her adopted son Adam, who was born with fetal alcohol damage, Erdrich argues that pregnant women need restrictions to keep them from harming their children by drinking alcohol. 9 pp.

A339 Louise Erdrich
A group of Native American children who are culturally dislocated in a government school attempt to find their way home. 2 pp.

A718 Louise Erdrich
The Red Convertible (1984)
With humor and compassion, an American Indian writer explores the impact of the Vietnam War on the relationship between two brothers. 10 pp.

A719 Stephanie Ericsson
The Ways We Lie (1992)
Lies can be defined in many ways, and these various types of lies can affect us quite differently. Ericsson takes the reader from the polite white lie that can preserve relationships to the destructive deceptions that destroy both self, others, and even culture. 9 pp.

A215 Susan Estrich
Separate Is Better (1994)
Harvard law professor and graduate of an all girls' school, Susan Estrich notes that girls do better in math and science classes where the male competition has been removed. 5 pp.

A176 Amitai Etzioni
HIV Sufferers Have a Responsibility (1993)
Scholar Amitai Etzioni argues that HIV sufferers must disclose their illness for the good of society no matter what the consequences to the sufferers. 3 pp.

A822 Amitai Etzioni
The New Community (1993)
This essay compares and contrasts two sociological concepts, one having to do with close-knit communities based on relationship and the other having to do with diverse societies based on social contracts. Etzioni concludes that America today is a mix of both. 8 pp.
A384  Kathleen Fackelmann
_It's a Girl! (1998)_
Arguing that designer children are just around the corner, health reporter Kathleen Fackelmann traces the move toward a genetically pre-determined world in which parents can—and must—pick the traits of their children to be. 5 pp.

A823  Leila Fadel
_Chilling Stories from the Mahdi Army (2007)_
This news story contends that the problems in Iraq and Iran are about the rivalries between two ethnic groups, the Shiites and the Sunnis. As long as these two groups continue to take revenge, the author feels, nothing will change in Iraq. 5 pp.

A030  Susan Faludi
_Blame It on Feminism (1991)_
Journalist Susan Faludi notes the long way that women have to go to find equality in the world by pointing to the many attacks on feminism and the continued struggles women face in finding workplace equality. 16 pp.

A216  Peter Farb
_Linguistic Chauvinism (1973)_
Linguist Peter Farb describes the characteristics and origins of Black American English and argues for a more sensitive method of educating black children. 9 pp.

A554  Christopher John Farley
_Nirvana Is a Click Away (2000)_
A _Time_ critic’s review points out that several web sites offer music enthusiasts the opportunity to check out new bands and artists who have received little mainstream publicity. 3 pp.

A309  William Faulkner
_A Rose for Emily (1930)_
In a small Mississippi town, the veneer of genteel poverty masks a grotesque reality as town leaders finally discover the secret of the decades-old disappearance of Miss Emily Grierson’s fiancé. 9 pp.

A824  Paul Feine
_McBastards: McDonald’s & Globalization (2008)_
In this light and easy-going essay, Feine discusses the power and fearsome aspects of the McDonald’s empire but concludes that Americans both at home and abroad just cannot live without the Golden Arches. 4 pp.

A928  Jonathan Safran Foer
.NEW! _My Life as a Dog (2006)_
A novelist and author describes his relationship with his dog, George and, along the way, provides a treatise on the compromises involved in sharing the planet with other beings. 4 pp.

A929  Jonathan Safran Foer
.NEW! _Against Meat (2009)_
A well-known fiction writer discusses his lifelong relationship to food, his grandmother’s influence, and why he decided to give up eating meat. 10 pp.

A031  E. M. Forster
_My Wood (1963)_
E.M. Forster muses on the profits and impositions of property ownership, noting the deterioration of the moral fiber of a man who becomes a landowner. 4 pp.

A720  Jib Fowles
_Advertising’s Fifteen Basic Appeals (1982)_
An expert on mass advertising offers a list of principles, an “inventory of human motives,” advertisers deploy to make their products appealing to consumers’ most fundamental desires. 21 pp.

A930  Lisa Frank
.NEW! _The Evolution of the Seven Deadly Sins: From God to the Simpsons (2001)_
An observer of American culture analyzes The Simpsons as a celebration of sinfulness, indicative of how far contemporary society has moved away from early Christianity’s condemnation of sin. 12 pp.

A629  Laura Fraser
_Jailhouse Talk (2002)_
Through his weekly radio program, 61-year-old gay ex-convict Ray Hill speaks to prisoners in Texas about rehabilitation, exposes corruption in the system, and puts families in touch with their loved ones on the “inside.” 8 pp.

A556  Ian Frazier
_Trust Me, In These Parts, Hot Dogs Actually Repel Bears (1999)_
In this essay, a frequent contributor to _Outside_ magazine offers a humorous view of “information-age” outdoor advice. 6 pp.
A643  Mary E. Wilkins Freeman  
**The Revolt of “Mother”** (1891)  
A dutiful farm wife takes things into her own hands when her husband announces that he is building a second barn rather than the house he had promised her when they were married. **16 pp.**

A722  Paulo Freire  
**NEW! The Banking Concept of Education** (1970)  
In this selection from *Pedagogy of the Oppressed*, a world-famous Brazilian educator lays out the theoretical groundwork for radical educational and social reform. **15 pp.**

A723  Sigmund Freud  
**The Oedipus Complex** (1899)  
The Oedipus complex has become a part of everyday speech, but the passage presented here was Freud’s original argument explaining the concept that he was developing. He argues that western culture has been obsessed with the story of Oedipus, who kills his father and marries his mother because every person has deep mixed feelings toward his or her parents. **7 pp.**

A291  Betty Friedan  
**The Quiet Movement of American Men** (1981)  
Feminist Betty Friedan compares men’s and women’s responses to change, speculating that men have different reasons for seeking change and experience different outcomes when it has come. **16 pp.**

A904  Thomas L. Friedman  
**Finishing Our Work** (2008)  
A columnist for the *New York Times* attempts to explain how Barack Obama won the presidential election in the most immediate sense, but also defines the election as part of a long continuum of racial and social developments and, in doing so, projects a more enlightened future for the U.S. **4 pp.**

A825  Thomas L. Friedman  
**While I Was Sleeping** (2006)  
An American journalist comes to the realization that the technology explosion of the twenty-first century has empowered not only governments and businesses, but terrorist networks and individuals as well. **10 pp.**

A311  Robert Frost  
**Birches** (1916)  
A childhood game presents an opportunity for philosophical reflection in Robert Frost’s moving poem. **3 pp.**

A403  Robert Frost  
**Mending Wall** (1914)  
While performing the annual Spring ritual of repairing a stone wall with his neighbor, the poet wonders why people believe that good fences make good neighbors. **2 pp.**

A571  Northrop Frye  
**Don’t You Think It’s Time to Start Thinking?** (1986)  
In his essay, Frye insists that thinking happens only when a person writes down ideas “in the right words.” This essay may have been the opening cry of the critical thinking battle. **3 pp.**

A570  Northrop Frye  
**The Motive for Metaphor** (1963)  
Frye contrasts scientific and imaginative thinking and investigates the reasons that humans need metaphors in their intellectual lives. **10 pp.**

A672  Ed Fulginiti  
**Do-Gooders Need to Let Us Decide for Ourselves What is Harmful** (2003)  
Fulginiti, a senior citizen advocate, argues that people need to decide for themselves on the risks they want to take; Big Brother should look the other way. **3 pp.**

A259  Paul Fussell  
**Notes on Class** (1982)  
Historian Paul Fussell gives some wry classifications of the mysterious and often denied American class system. **8 pp.**

A572  Mavis Gallant  
**What is Style?** (1986)  
Gallant addresses one of the most interesting and yet vexing of questions about writing: How does a writer or critic define style, and how is a particular style defined? **4 pp.**

A373  Gabriel García Márquez  
**Balthazar’s Marvelous Afternoon** (1972)  
Colombian novelist Gabriel García Márquez tells the story of an artist’s perfect creation. **8 pp.**
A217 Henry Louis Gates, Jr.  
_The Debate Has Been Miscast from the Start_ (1991)  
African-American scholar Henry Louis Gates, Jr. argues that multiculturalism is with us always and that the responsibility of Americans is to understand how to live with it gracefully and hopefully. 5 pp.

A932 Henry Louis Gates, Jr.  
NEW! _2 Live Crew Decoded_ (1990)  
This brief essay addresses his main theme of asking the wider community to understand and appreciate the underlying meaning and social symbolism of rap music in general and the group 2 Live Crew in particular. 3 pp.

A573 Carol Geddes  
_Growing Up Native_ (1990)  
A Yukon-born member of the Tlingit Nation recalls discrimination and oppression at the hands of whites and argues that native cultures have much to offer mainstream Canadian culture. 7 pp.

A826 Lianne George  
_Why Are We Dressing Our Daughters Like This?_ (2007)  
A Canadian journalist cites a number of experts with different explanations for what many consider an alarming trend toward sexualizing girls’ clothing. 10 pp.

A933 Matthew Gilbert  
NEW! _All the Drama in Half the Time (Plus Laughs!)_ (2009)  
A television critic coins a term, “grimedy,” for what he considers a new genre of television, a genre that reflects the ambivalent emotions of contemporary American society. 3 pp.

A310 Charlotte Perkins Gilman  
_The Yellow Wallpaper_ (1892)  
A young mother suffering from post-partum depression descends slowly into madness when her physician-husband forbids her to write or communicate with others. 17 pp.

A934 Henry A. Giroux  
NEW! _Commodifying Kids: The Forgotten Crisis_ (2009)  
A well-known radical educator discusses in this essay from ZNet the values that led to the global financial crisis and the need to the values of “mutuality, reciprocity and compassion” for the sake of children and their future. 9 pp.

A827 Malcolm Gladwell  
_Dangerous Minds: Criminal Profiling Made Easy_ (2007)  
A writer for _The New Yorker_ unmasks the glorified image of the F.B.I. criminal profiler, comparing profiling to the practice of astrologers and psychics. 15 pp.

A828 Malcolm Gladwell  
In a review of James Flynn’s _What Is Intelligence?_ a journalist and author of _The Tipping Point_ and _Blink_ discusses the significance of Flynn’s research as a challenge to what he refers to as the “I.Q. fundamentalists.” 9 pp.

A649 Malcolm Gladwell  
_The Tipping Point_ (2000)  
In this excerpt from his best-selling book, _The Tipping Point_, Malcolm Gladwell theorizes that the scientific idea that describes the point at which mass begins to move applies equally to fashion, culture, and politics; he concludes that the implications for analyzing society are many. 10 pp.

A333 Susan Glaspell  
_A Jury of Her Peers_ (1917)  
In this story, two women uncover critical evidence in a murder case and must decide whether their loyalty to the suspect, a neglected housewife, outweighs their loyalty to their husbands and the law. 20 pp.
| A306 | Susan Glaspell  
Trifles (1916)  
In this play, two women uncover critical evidence in a murder case and must decide whether their loyalty to the suspect, a neglected housewife, outweighs their loyalty to their husbands and the law. | 15 pp. |
| A935 | Barry Glassner  
NEW! What Made America Fat? (2007)  
Scholarly evidence varies considerably on the obesity debate, and the subtleties of the debate leave much room for further research and debate. It may be, in fact, that a certain moralistic attitude pervades the obesity debate and that the evidence is far from clear. | 20 pp. |
| A404 | Randi Glatzer  
Curves Ahead: How to Eat and Exercise Your Way to a Great Shape (1997)  
This short essay suggests four ways to gain weight and look better, noting that 20 percent of people who visit nutritionists are doing so to gain weight. | 3 pp. |
| A292 | Nathan Glazer  
In Defense of Multiculturalism (1991)  
Harvard professor Nathan Glazer investigates the complexities of viewing our schools as places of ethnic pride and cultural assimilation. | 8 pp. |
| A936 | Nathan Glazer  
NEW! Do We Need the Census Race Question? (2002)  
Glazer describes how American political obsessions with questions of race arise in the census document, which asks for much more detailed information about race than about more important factors such as education. | 10 pp. |
| A829 | Maria Glod  
High-School Students Fight Anti-Cheating Firm (2006)  
Students at a Virginia high school protest the school’s use of Turnitin, a database designed to discourage plagiarism. | 3 pp. |
| A405 | Jeffrey Goldberg  
Microbes on the Move (1999)  
Stories of easily transportable viruses argue for a truly global approach to the study of disease and public health. | 4 pp. |
| A618 | Paul Goldberger  
In an essay published merely two weeks after the destruction of the World Trade Center towers, an architectural critic laments their passing and tries to imagine the future. | 5 pp. |
| A107 | Ellen Goodman  
The Company Man (1981)  
Quickly and deftly, Ellen Goodman dispatches the Company Man. He works too many hours, exercises too little, cares for his family only indirectly, and dies unsung and well insured. | 3 pp. |
| A033 | Ellen Goodman  
The “Reasonable Woman” Is an Effective Standard to Establish Harassment (1991)  
Goodman applies the so-called reasonable man standard to the problem of sexual harassment. | 3 pp. |
| A108 | Ellen Goodman  
The Tapestry of Friendship (1979)  
In this short selection, Ellen Goodman gives thought to the nature of real friendship. | 3 pp. |
| A830 | Doris Kearns Goodwin  
How I Caused That Story (2002)  
A respected historian responds to accusations of plagiarism, explaining the complicated process of incorporating sources into lengthy works of history. | 3 pp. |
| A368 | Nadine Gordimer  
Some Monday for Sure (1965)  
The underground struggle against apartheid in South Africa draws a man, his wife, and her young brother into a revolutionary act that forces them all into exile. | 17 pp. |
| A261 | Stephen Jay Gould  
The Creation Myths of Cooperstown (1991)  
| A035 | Stephen Jay Gould  
Evolution as Fact and Theory (1981)  
A260 Stephen Jay Gould  
*Genesis vs. Geology* (1982)  
Paleontologist Stephen Jay Gould explains why the study of evolution has a rightful place in the public school curriculum, and why the study of creationism does not. **10 pp.**

A340 Stephen Jay Gould  
*Ghosts of Bell Curves Past* (1995)  
Attacking assumptions about causation in current debates about race and I.Q., Gould contrasts tales of past racist views with current studies of I.Q. variation in changed environments. **14 pp.**

A177 Stephen Jay Gould  
*The Median Isn’t the Message* (1991)  
Stephen Jay Gould gives us a lesson in how statistics may be misinterpreted. **6 pp.**

A218 Stephen Jay Gould  
Stephen Jay Gould recounts the major theories how dinosaurs became extinct, and in the process teaches us about the character of good theory. **9 pp.**

A036 Stephen Jay Gould  
*Women’s Brains* (1980)  
Stephen Jay Gould outlines how scientists in the past have used theories about brain size as an argument for women’s “inferiority.” **7 pp.**

A831 Timothy Gower  
*Fatal Flaw* (2008)  
A journalist consults doctors and medical ethicists who differ on questions not only of how to define death, but also on whether or not to abandon the “dead donor rule” in harvesting organs for transplant. **6 pp.**

A178 Jeff Greenfield  
*The Beatles: They Changed Rock, Which Changed the Culture, Which Changed Us* (1975)  
Journalist Jeff Greenfield contemplates the significance of The Beatles to youth culture of the 1960s. **9 pp.**

A109 Jeff Greenfield  
*The Black and White Truth about Basketball* (1991)  
Journalist Jeff Greenfield makes a controversial argument that there is a black style and a white style of playing, and that the difference is a matter of social and cultural background. **7 pp.**

A219 Dick Gregory  
*Shame* (1964)  
In this excerpt from his autobiography, Dick Gregory remembers the time when his teacher revealed to the class how poor his family was. **5 pp.**

A508 Al Griffin  
*Sony 36-Inch HD-Ready TV* (2000)  
In this review of a new Sony TV model, the author comments on the technical revolution of high-definition television. **2 pp.**

A406 Jacob and Wilhelm Grimm  
*LITTLE SNOW WHITE* (1812)  
In the original, pre-Disney fairy tale, a queen’s attempts to destroy her beautiful young rival are all made in vain. **8 pp.**

A630 Rob Gurwitt  
*Fostering Hope* (2002)  
In this article from Mother Jones, the author describes a neighborhood designed to help ease one of the country’s most heartbreaking problems. In this planned community, senior citizens commit themselves to providing a healthy environment for children in the foster-care system. **11 pp.**

A937 Julie Guthman  
*NEW! The Food Police* (2008)  
A researcher questions “the public conversation about obesity” and the causal claims linking obesity to diseases such as diabetes. Mostly, however, she is critical of influential writers such as Michael Pollan. She is disturbed by a moral superiority on Pollan's part that only feeds people's anxiety about their bodies. **6 pp.**

A770 Katie Hafner and Tim Gnatzek  
In this article from the New York Times, two reporters offer a glimpse into the culture of blogging and bloggers. **5 pp.**

A220 Donald Hall  
*Keeping Things* (1990)  
In this autobiographical selection, poet Donald Hall tells about some of his ancestors and recounts the experience of moving into his ancestral home. **11 pp.**
A938  Edward Hall
NEW!  The Arab World (1990)
In this selection, excerpted from The Hidden Dimension, a famous anthropologist attempts to explain why “Westerners and Arabs still do not understand in other.” While this work was published in 1966, given the global climate today the need for cultural understanding may be greater than ever. 10 pp.

A631  Vicky Hallett
Hallett argues that several new reality-television programs that appeared in 2003 suggest that American culture might be entering a “post-gay age.” 3 pp.

A621  Sue Halpern
No Room at the Church (2000)
In the wake of the Vermont Supreme Court decision entitled same-sex couples the same benefits afforded married couples, the state legislature institutes hearings on the issue. Tom Luce, a former priest who has been married for thirty years, makes a public appeal and confession, and suffers the consequences. 5 pp.

A642  Sue Halpern
A Peaceful Mourning (2002)
A small but adamant group of people who have lost loved ones on September 11, 2001 are determined that their loss not be used as a justification for war. 5 pp.

A650  Jane Eaton Hamilton
Twenty-One Questions (2001)
Gently and with some humor, Hamilton presents the challenges of two women deciding to marry each other, in how this union might be like, and unlike, other kinds of marriage. 15 pp.

A833  Joshua Hammer
A Prayer for the Ganges (2007)
A journalist chronicles the largely failed efforts to clean up the Ganges, the most sacred—and most dangerously polluted—waterway in India. 10 pp.

A179  Garrett Hardin
Lifeboat Ethics: The Case Against Helping the Poor (1974)
Biologist Garrett Hardin makes utilization of society’s resources a moral issue. 11 pp.

A470  Thomas Hardy
The Oxen (1916)
In this well-known poem, Hardy suggests that perhaps oxen do kneel on Christmas Eve, as the old tales tell. 1 p.

A496  Joy Harjo
Deer Dancer (1990)
In a bar on the reservation, a mysterious woman dances naked, conjuring up mythical images and threatening violence among the bar’s patrons. 3 pp.

A543  Amy Harmon
Virtual Sex, Lies and Cyberspace (1997)
Los Angeles Times writer Harmon explores chat rooms as sites for fantasy and romance. 8 pp.

A781  Sidney Harris
And Then a Miracle Occurs (1977)
A New Yorker cartoonist presents a humorous rendition of scientists attempting to explain the universe. 2 pp.

A681  Johnny Hart
“You Your Report Card is All A’s” (2003)
In this B.C. comic, Hart brings to light issues of what it means to be an “A” student, as well society's stereotypes and expectations of certain kinds of students and professions. 2 pp.

A473  The Harvard Education Group
Table 8 from “Resegregation in American Schools” (1999)
A table, based on research compiled for the 1999 Harvard University Civil Rights Project, strongly suggests that segregation is returning to the U.S. South. 2 pp.

A620  Heather Havrilesky
Beach Blanket Bimbology (2003)
In this review from Salon, the author illustrates that although we know that teenage movies such as "The Real Cancun" are brainless entertainment, we take a certain voyeuristic pleasure in watching them nevertheless. 4 pp.

A622  Stephen Hawking
Our Picture of the Universe (1988)
“What do we know about the universe, and how do we know it? Where did the universe come from and where is it going?” A famous physicist tackles these and other difficult questions in his search for a unified theory of how the universe works. 12 pp.
A297 Nathaniel Hawthorne
*Rappaccini's Daughter* (1844)
Nathaniel Hawthorne recounts the tragic story of a beautiful girl reared by a mad scientist father, whose experiments include mixing her chemistry with that of poisonous plants. **29 pp.**

A835 Jessi Hempel with Paula Lehman
This essay, written with Hempel's editorial assistant Paula Lehman, demonstrates a thorough knowledge of the music scene for today’s youngest members of the web world. The writing style of the essay reflects the quick reading style of those interested in the music scene, easy and full of detail. **10 pp.**

A334 Robert Hayden
*Those Winter Sundays* (1975)
Poet Robert Hayden takes us to his childhood, recalls a routine chore of his father’s, and later comes to understand it as love. **2 pp.**

A836 Ayaan Hirsi Ali
*Excerpt from Infidel* (2007)
In this chapter from her memoir, Hirsi Ali recounts the uproar over her public comments about the Prophet Muhammad, her agenda as a new member of the Dutch parliament, and a short movie she made with a well-known filmmaker. **15 pp.**

A325 Seamus Heaney
*Mid-term Break* (1980)
The poet unflinchingly recalls his impressions of events surrounding the death of a younger sibling. **2 pp.**

A461 Nat Hentoff
"Speech Codes" on the Campus and Problems of Free Speech (1991)
Journalist Nat Hentoff reports on the tensions that exist between campus codes against hate speech and ideas of free speech. **8 pp.**

A180 Shirley Brice Heath
*Literate Traditions* (1983)
Anthropology and linguistics professor Shirley Brice Heath offers a portrait of two communities in rural North Carolina. **12 pp.**

A446 Beth Hirschfield, Adam Kemezis, and Jessica H. Raymond
In their letters to the editor, three New York Times Magazine readers respond to a December 2000 interview with Chelsea Clinton that addressed her right to privacy. **2 pp.**

A328 Thomas Highway
*What a Certain Visionary Once Said* (1992)
An author from Manitoba offers a gentle description of the place where he spent his youth. **2 pp.**

A574 Tomson Highway
*The Design of Virtual Reality* (1996)
Los Angeles philosophy professor and tai chi instructor Michael Heim muses on the implications of Virtual Reality and what he terms Alternate World Syndrome. **16 pp.**

A859 Michael Heim
*Don’t Let Stereotypes Warp Your Judgments* (1990s)
Robert Heilbronner discusses the dangers of stereotyping and how we can become more aware of this tendency. **4 pp.**

A467 Robert Heilbronner
"If the Internet Were Really an Information Superhighway" (2003)
Cartoonist Joe Heller comments on the reality of the Internet. **2 pp.**

A376 Ernest Hemingway
*Big Two-Hearted River* (1925)
A man struggles to find peace in the solitude of the wilderness. **19 pp.**

A446 Tomson Highway
*What a Certain Visionary Once Said* (1992)
An author from Manitoba offers a gentle description of the place where he spent his youth. **2 pp.**

A684 Joe Heller
*Excerpt from Infidel* (2007)
In this chapter from her memoir, Hirsi Ali recounts the uproar over her public comments about the Prophet Muhammad, her agenda as a new member of the Dutch parliament, and a short movie she made with a well-known filmmaker. **15 pp.**

A652 Jack Hitt
*The Hidden Life of SUVs* (1999)
Hitt argues that the SUV has become a unit of war, one that allows humans to ride around in tanks that protect them from the threats of the post-modern world. **5 pp.**
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Code</th>
<th>Author</th>
<th>Title</th>
<th>Description</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>A037</td>
<td>Edward Hoagland</td>
<td><em>The Courage of Turtles (1968)</em></td>
<td>Writer and naturalist Edward Hoagland offers readers a detailed and engaging account of turtle behavior. 7 pp.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>A407</td>
<td>Edward Hoagland</td>
<td><em>Earth’s Eye (1999)</em></td>
<td>Well-known nature writer and teacher Edward Hoagland explores the physical and social meanings of water in its many forms. 6 pp.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>A837</td>
<td>Edward Hoagland</td>
<td><em>Endgame: Meditations on a Diminishing World (2007)</em></td>
<td>In this essay from Harper’s magazine, a well-known nature writer offers a passionate yet pessimistic view of the current state of the natural world and takes the opportunity to note the passing. 16 pp.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>A632</td>
<td>Linda Hogan</td>
<td><em>Hearing Voices (1992)</em></td>
<td>A Native-American writer explains that her work is part of a larger community of voices, including animals, plants, and the earth itself. 5 pp.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>A646</td>
<td>Greg Hollingshead</td>
<td><em>The Naked Man (1995)</em></td>
<td>Returning to Canada after a year in Australia, a young man discovers that his beloved Studebaker is missing and his family home is now inhabited by a bizarre assortment of strangers. 9 pp.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>A181</td>
<td>bell hooks</td>
<td><em>Straightening Our Hair (1989)</em></td>
<td>Teacher, activist, and writer bell hooks recounts a childhood ritual and reflects on its cultural significance. 9 pp.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>A182</td>
<td>bell hooks</td>
<td><em>Talking Back (1989)</em></td>
<td>Writer bell hooks describes the childhood influences that led her to a career. 6 pp.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>A610</td>
<td>bell hooks</td>
<td><em>Writing is My Passion (1989)</em></td>
<td>Much of what we experience in life is through language. Because hooks is passionate about writing, she suffers and is also healed by language. 4 pp.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>A633</td>
<td>Sarah Winnemucca Hopkins</td>
<td>“My People Will Never Believe Me Again” (1883)</td>
<td>A Piute interpreter for the United States Army recounts the forced relocation of her people during a harsh winter. 10 pp.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>A326</td>
<td>Janet Hopson</td>
<td><em>Fetal Psychology (1998)</em></td>
<td>Challenging assumptions about the sensitivity of a fetus, Hopson cites current research showing that a fetus as young as three months recognizes sounds and voices. 8 pp.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>A382</td>
<td>Pam Houston</td>
<td><em>Cowboys Are My Weakness (1992)</em></td>
<td>In this tale set in the American West, Pam Houston tells of a young woman out for adventure and ultimately bound to live life on her own terms. 13 pp.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>A111</td>
<td>Sue Hubbell</td>
<td><em>The Beekeeper (1984)</em></td>
<td>Former librarian Sue Hubbell describes in detail how bees remove honey from their hives and, in the process, provide a rite of passage for a young man. 4 pp.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>A471</td>
<td>Langston Hughes</td>
<td><em>Cora Unashamed (1934)</em></td>
<td>An African-American woman serves a white family in Iowa, then quits after showing them their prudishness and cruelty. 10 pp.</td>
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<tr>
<td>A039</td>
<td>Langston Hughes</td>
<td>Salvation (1940)</td>
<td>Poet and writer Langston Hughes dramatizes an autobiographical event by retelling it in the child's voice.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>A040</td>
<td>Langston Hughes</td>
<td>That Word Black (1953)</td>
<td>From the perspective of the character Simple, Langston Hughes analyzes how particular words achieve negative connotations over time.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>A049</td>
<td>Langston Hughes</td>
<td>Theme for English B (1951)</td>
<td>A student comments on the irony of a teacher's vague assignment, wondering if being &quot;colored&quot; will be reflected in the description he writes of himself.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>A839</td>
<td>Ann Hulbert</td>
<td>Boy Problems (2005)</td>
<td>This essay addresses the issues of students of both genders dropping behind in studies, girls in math and boys in general. The author concludes that perhaps recognizing the drop in male achievement may lead to progress for all.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>A725</td>
<td>Samuel P. Huntington</td>
<td>Are the Flags Still There? (2004)</td>
<td>Huntington notes that national identity has both changed and become more intense since 9/11. While the majority of Americans are becoming more “American,” the large corporations are becoming more international and more their own corporate identities.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>A041</td>
<td>Zora Neale Hurston</td>
<td>How It Feels to Be Colored Me (1929)</td>
<td>In this autobiographical selection, the fiction writer describes in a personal way what it means to be black.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>A940</td>
<td>Chuck Hustmyre and Jay Dixit</td>
<td>NEW! Marked for Mayhem (2009)</td>
<td>Street criminals target victims by dress, walk, and attitude. Victims should not blame themselves, but everyone can learn how to avoid victim-like behavior. Researchers present interviews with criminals and police detectives.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>A409</td>
<td>Thomas Henry Huxley</td>
<td>On the Advisableness of Improving Natural Knowledge (1989)</td>
<td>Huxley argues the importance of scientific investigation, not only for the practical world of technology and industry, but also for the advancement of human thought and understanding.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>A458</td>
<td>Illinois Math and Science Academy</td>
<td>Welcome to the New and Improved IMSA Internet ToolKit (2001)</td>
<td>This welcome page offers a portal to the Illinois Math and Science Academy Web site. Developed by students at the Academy, the ToolKit is possibly the most useful online tool for young writers, in that it shows writers how to evaluate Internet sites.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>A500</td>
<td>Industrial Workers of the World</td>
<td>Manifesto of the Industrial Workers of the World (1905)</td>
<td>In the famous 1905 manifesto, Chicago Labor organizers critical of traditional craft- and trade-based labor unions call on all workers throughout the world to organize against the capitalist system.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>A840</td>
<td>Carolyn Ives</td>
<td>Brains, Brawn, and Beauty: A Place for Feminist Academics in Aesthetic Body Sports, or Working towards a Physical Feminism (2006)</td>
<td>A college teacher and physique athlete explores the challenges of women in a male-dominated sport. Also, she confronts the paradox of being an academic feminist involved in a sport some view as objectifying women.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>A112</td>
<td>Molly Ivins</td>
<td>The Romance of Football (1991)</td>
<td>Molly Ivins, a journalist with deep roots in Texas, asserts that football is an inherently sexist game.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
NEW! Pico Iyer
Where Worlds Collide (1995)
A travel writer and novelist describes the cross-cultural and chaos of life at the Los Angeles International Airport where “everyone is a stranger in our new floating world.” 14 pp.

Shirley Jackson
The Lottery (1948)
The residents of a small New England town tend to their annual spring ritual in gothic writer Shirley Jackson’s chilling portrayal of tradition and human behavior. 9 pp.

Marni Jackson
A self-proclaimed “Birkenstock generation” journalist explores the world of Barbie, and concludes that parental disapproval may be precisely the reason why little girls still love her. 5 pp.

Jeff Jacoby
A Vote for Voting on Election Day (2008)
A newspaper columnist argues that the increasing trend toward early voting is detrimental to the democratic process. 3 pp.

Susan Jacoby
A First Amendment Junkie (1979)
In this well-known essay, Susan Jacoby argues that feminists ought not advocate censoring pornography. 4 pp.

George Wharton James
Photograph of Hopi Boy on Horseback (1896)

Henry James
The Beast in the Jungle (1915)
A man’s obsessive fear that a terrible fate awaits him prevents him from living his life. 42 pp.

Scott Jaschik
Winning Hearts and Minds in War on Plagiarism (2008)
In this selection from Inside Higher Ed., the author visits a conference of writing teachers where the topic is the problem of student plagiarism and ways of addressing the matter. 8 pp.

Robin Jeffers
Hurt Hawks (1938)

Thomas Jefferson
The Declaration of Independence (1776)
In one of the most famous documents of American history, Thomas Jefferson asserts the concepts of “life, liberty, and the pursuit of happiness.” 4 pp.

Gish Jen
What Means Switch? (1990)
In this selection from The Atlantic, Gish Jen writes about the experience of communicating with someone from another culture. 17 pp.

Brian D. Johnson
In his film review of the sequel to The Blair Witch Project, “the most profitable indie film in history,” Johnson describes a “postmodern trope” and a desire to “turn a cult phenomenon into a Hollywood franchise.” 2 pp.

Kirk Johnson
Today’s Kids Are, Like, Killing the English Language. Yeah, Right. (1998)
Johnson discusses the emergence of new slang words that he claims fill a void in the English language. 4 pp.

Lynn Johnston
Panic Helps You Focus (2000)
In this segment of the series For Better or Worse, the popular cartoonist investigates the pleasures of writing and deadlines. 2 pp.

Lynn Johnston
My Article Is Complete! (2000)
In this segment of the series For Better or Worse, a young writer finds deadlines in both his professional and personal life. 2 pp.

Bronwyn Jones
Arming Myself with a Gun Is Not the Answer (2000)
Despite threats from a schizophrenic, Jones chooses not to buy a gun to protect herself. She speculates on the fears of those who do choose to own guns, noting that dangers lurk even in small town life. 3 pp.
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>ID</th>
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<th>Pages</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>A114</td>
<td>Rachel L. Jones</td>
<td><em>What’s Wrong with Black English? (1982)</em></td>
<td>Journalist Rachel Jones explains why African Americans should be less dependent on a dialect that disempowers them.</td>
<td>3 pp.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>A654</td>
<td>June Jordan</td>
<td><em>A New Politics of Sexuality (2003)</em></td>
<td>Jordan compares sexual politics to racial politics and asks that regardless of body type or sexual orientation, people be comfortable with themselves.</td>
<td>6 pp.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>A045</td>
<td>Suzanne Britt Jordan</td>
<td><em>Fun, Oh Boy. Fun. You Could Die from It. (1979)</em></td>
<td>Teacher and freelance journalist Suzanne Britt Jordan offers an ironic statement on our tendency towards the trivial.</td>
<td>3 pp.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>A044</td>
<td>Suzanne Britt Jordan</td>
<td><em>Neat People vs. Sloppy People (1983)</em></td>
<td>Suzanne Britt Jordan uses humor to characterize human nature.</td>
<td>3 pp.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>A043</td>
<td>Suzanne Britt Jordan</td>
<td><em>That Lean and Hungry Look (1978)</em></td>
<td>Jordan argues for the good qualities of fat people and the pushy and not-verylemonly qualities of thin people in this essay that cheers anyone who has ever tried to lose a pound.</td>
<td>3 pp.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>A295</td>
<td>James Joyce</td>
<td><em>Araby (1914)</em></td>
<td>In one of Irish novelist James Joyce's vivid stories of life in Dublin, a young boy experiences his first love, which leads to failure when he tries to find the perfect gift at a local bazaar.</td>
<td>6 pp.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>A727</td>
<td>Carl Gustav Jung</td>
<td><em>The Personal and the Collective Unconscious (1934)</em></td>
<td>In this selection, Jung explains how the collective unconscious can be understood in symbols that occur to everyone in both their dreams and in their selected life symbols. He discusses images of the great mother to illustrate one example of an archetype derived from the unconscious and apparent in dreams and religion.</td>
<td>12 pp.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>A634</td>
<td>Benjamin Justice</td>
<td><em>Historical Fiction to Historical Fact: “Gangs of New York” and the Whitewashing of History (2003)</em></td>
<td>A historian argues that Martin Scorses's film, although certainly entertaining, is an exercise in historical denial.</td>
<td>9 pp.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>A264</td>
<td>M. Kadi</td>
<td><em>Welcome to Cyberia (1994)</em></td>
<td>M. Kadi (a pen name for a computer consultant who prefers to remain anonymous when writing about computer issues) attempts to dispel some of our illusions about the wonders of electronic communication.</td>
<td>6 pp.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>A942</td>
<td>Jeremy Kahn</td>
<td><em>NEW! Bribe Fighter (2010)</em></td>
<td>A journalist examines how the introduction of a fake currency, the “zero rupee note,” is shaming low-level bureaucrats into abandoning the culture of corruption in India.</td>
<td>6 pp.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>A675</td>
<td>Kevin Kallaugher (KAL)</td>
<td><em>The Fat Cat in the Hat (2003)</em></td>
<td>In this cartoon, Kallaugher depicts how, in the wake of recent scandals, the “cat is out of the bag” on corporate greed.</td>
<td>1 p.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>A655</td>
<td>Wendy Kaminer</td>
<td><em>Let’s Talk about Gender, Baby (2001)</em></td>
<td>Kaminer condemns the misdefinition of gender and sex, arguing that when we confuse and misuse these terms, we fail to address the real issues behind the words.</td>
<td>3 pp.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>A843</td>
<td>Robert D. Kaplan</td>
<td><em>Lost at Sea (2007)</em></td>
<td>A military scholar discusses how U.S. involvement in Iraq and its interests in the Middle East have diverted this nation’s attention from the military and economic build-up in the Asian countries.</td>
<td>5 pp.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
A614 Robert D. Kaplan
It is a common belief that the world will be a different place as a direct result of September 11, 2001. In this essay from The Atlantic, however, the author speculates on major events that will unfold apart from the events of that day and the war on terrorism. 5 pp.

A635 Ryszard Kapuscinski
Christmas Eve in Uganda (1989)
A Polish reporter investigating dictator Idi Amin’s reign of terror in Uganda highlights the ways in which fear persistently intervenes in ordinary life. 7 pp.

A265 Roger Karraker
Highways of the Mind or Toll Roads Between Information Castles (1991)
Roger Karraker characterizes the controversy surrounding control over future information highways. 13 pp.

A266 Leon Kass
Why Doctors Must Not Kill (1991)
Physician and medical ethicist Leon Kass explains from an ethical standpoint why physicians should avoid the euthanasia controversy. 10 pp.

A728 Tim Kasser
The High Price of Materialism (2002)
People who worry about making money and having the right education and background are not as happy and fulfilled as people who think more about getting along with others and doing good work. Our culture, however, encourages the pursuit of money and prestige thus leading many to be unhappy. 11 pp.

A358 Nicholas deB. Katzenbach and Burke Marshall
Not Color Blind: Just Blind (1998)
Former presidential administrators Nicholas deB. Katzenbach and Burke Marshall argue in support of affirmative action at a time when the national mood seems to be shifting against it. 9 pp.

A046 Garrison Keillor
How to Write a Personal Letter (1986)
Writer Garrison Keillor of the Prairie Home Companion radio show fame offers homespun advice on one of our most nagging social conventions. 3 pp.

A609 Garrison Keillor
No Place Like Home (2000)
The well-known writer and host of Prairie Home Companion offers a take on advice columns writing under the fictitious name, “Mr. Blue.” Mr. Blue comments on our very human doubts, worries, troubles, and on relationships in general. 5 pp.

A184 Helen Keller
Three Days to See (1902)
Helen Keller describes how she would live if she had only three days to see. 10 pp.

A047 Helen Keller
Everything Has a Name (1902)
In this excerpt from The Story of My Life, Helen Keller recounts the moment when she first understood the concept of language. 3 pp.

A943 John F. Kennedy
NEW! Inaugural Address (1961)
At the height of the Cold War, the youngest President of the United States issues a call for human rights, for peaceful relations among nations, and for American citizens to “ask not what your country can do for you—ask what you can do for your country.” 4 pp.

A115 Jack Kevorkian
A Case of Assisted Suicide (1991)
In this excerpt from his book Prescription: Medicine, Dr. Jack Kevorkian describes his so-called “death machine” and advances his reasons for using it. 7 pp.

A412 Jamaica Kincaid
In this excerpt from an autobiographical essay, Kincaid realizes that her understanding of her own life and world was shaped by an image of “mother England”, an image that robbed her of her own island and identity. 4 pp.

A301 Jamaica Kincaid
Girl (1983)
Jamaica Kincaid offers a painful account of a one-sided conversation between a mother and her daughter. 2 pp.

A363 Jamaica Kincaid
Red Ants (1997)
West Indian writer Jamaica Kincaid combines a powerful narrative about a sibling dying of AIDS with a description of her difficult relationship with her mother. 23 pp.
A049  Martin Luther King, Jr.  
**I Have a Dream (1963)**  
Great civil rights leader Martin Luther King, Jr. delivers his famous speech at the Lincoln Memorial and intensifies a political movement. 5 pp.

A048  Martin Luther King, Jr.  
**Letter from Birmingham Jail (1963)**  
Pastor and civil rights leader Martin Luther King, Jr. responds to criticism by fellow clergy and argues for the righteousness of civil disobedience (printed as it appeared originally). 20 pp.

A944  Stephen King  
Science fiction writers imagine a world where folks can read one another’s minds. In this short essay, King suggests that we read one another’s minds each time we read a text written by another person. Writing and reading are telepathy. 4 pp.

A116  Stephen King  
**Why We Crave Horror Movies (1982)**  
A master of horror writing, Stephen King explains our collective response to the horror film genre. 3 pp.

A604  Thomas King  
**Borders (1993)**  
In this short story, a Native-Canadian mother and son attempt to cross the U.S./Canadian border, claiming their citizenship as “Blackfoot” rather than Canadian or American. 11 pp.

A844  Barbara Kingsolver  
“Called Home” from **Animal, Vegetable, Miracle (2007)**  
A noted American writer sets out with her family to see if they can live simply, making as little impact on the environment as possible. 21 pp.

A050  Maxine Hong Kingston  
**No Name Woman (1975)**  
In an excerpt from her memoir **The Woman Warrior**, Maxine Hong Kingston confronts the ghost of her Aunt and tries to save her from disgrace and the punishment of silence. 12 pp.

A225  Maxine Hong Kingston  
**Silence (1975)**  
Kingston gives us insight into contrasting attitudes about language and its use. 5 pp.

A117  Perri Klass  
**Learning the Language (1987)**  
In this autobiographical selection about her time as a medical student, Dr. Klass explains how the language of medicine was an essential part of her initiation into its ways of thinking. 4 pp.

A846  Naomi Klein  
**Disaster Capitalism: The New Economy of Catastrophe (2007)**  
In the following essay from Harper’s, the Canadian journalist and activist takes a hard look at how climatic and political disasters fuel-free market forces that convert these disasters into market opportunities. 19 pp.

A847  Elizabeth Kolbert  
**Excerpt from Field Notes from a Catastrophe: Man, Nature, and Climate Change (2006)**  
Kolbert asserts that the greenhouse effect—so much in the news in the last few years—is nothing new. In fact, science has understood the effect of gases on the planet’s climate for quite some time indeed. 7 pp.

A729  The Koran  
**Muhammad’s Night Journey (630)**  
The Koran cannot really be translated from its original because of the power of the language itself so that any translation is a kind of paraphrase of the real poetry. This translation reveals Muhammad’s night journey experiences and visions. 8 pp.

A848  Edward Koren  
**Game/Test Scores (2002)**  
This cartoon suggests that we should reward athletes for their academic achievements as well as for their athletic prowess. The reward should be as public as the scoreboard at a basketball game. 2 pp.

A906  Anne E. Kornblut  
**Madam President: Will She Ever Get There? (2008)**  
This article from the Washington Post investigates the challenges of sexism faced by politicians Hilary Clinton and Sarah Palin as they worked to achieve the highest offices in the U.S., represented in attacks on their personal and professional behavior. 5 pp.
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>A945</th>
<th>Geeta Kothari</th>
<th>\textit{If You Are What You Eat, Then What Am I?} (1999)</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Kothari compares her experiences with Indian and American food, showing that she finds neither natural nor native to her mixed life experience. She explains how this lack of a clear identity shows up in every aspect of her “food” life.</td>
<td>5 pp.</td>
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<th>A118</th>
<th>Jonathan Kozol</th>
<th>\textit{Are the Homeless Crazy?} (1988)</th>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Kozol, a writer who has spent his career writing about social problems, explores why the public assumes that the homeless are necessarily mentally ill.</td>
<td>5 pp.</td>
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<tr>
<th>A051</th>
<th>Jonathan Kozol</th>
<th>\textit{The Human Cost of an Illiterate Society} (1985)</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Kozol explains the effects of illiteracy on everyone in society.</td>
<td>9 pp.</td>
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<td></td>
<td>Krakauer examines the teachings of the sect known as Mormon Fundamentalists, particularly its adamant defense of polygamy.</td>
<td>23 pp.</td>
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<tr>
<th>A850</th>
<th>John Krakauer</th>
<th>\textit{Excerpt from Into the Wild} (1996)</th>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Krakauer comes upon the bus in the Alaskan wilderness where McCandless had lived and died a year before and reflects on the significance of his rite of passage.</td>
<td>15 pp.</td>
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<td></td>
<td>Krauthammer takes the position that support for AIDS treatment, research, and testing has been gained through questionable political efforts.</td>
<td>3 pp.</td>
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<td></td>
<td>Krieger explains why Americans are obsessed with guns.</td>
<td>12 pp.</td>
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<tr>
<th>A907</th>
<th>Nicholas D. Kristof</th>
<th>\textit{Obama and the War on Brains} (2008)</th>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Based on his experiences in the Barack Obama campaign, Kristof contrasts the intellectual political approach of Obama to the hostility toward intellectuals that seems to have dominated U.S. politics in the past.</td>
<td>3 pp.</td>
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<tr>
<th>A946</th>
<th>Nicholas D. Kristof and Sheryl WuDunn</th>
<th>\textit{The Women's Crusade} (2009)</th>
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<tr>
<th>A947</th>
<th>Paul Krugman</th>
<th>\textit{How Did Economists Get It So Wrong?} (2009)</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>In this article from the \textit{New York Times Magazine}, the 2008 Nobel Prize winning economist asks, in light of the current economic crisis, “What happened to the economics profession? And where does it go from here?”</td>
<td>18 pp.</td>
</tr>
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<tr>
<th>A075</th>
<th>Elisabeth Kübler-Ross</th>
<th>\textit{On the Fear of Death} (1969)</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Advances in science and civilized society, argues Elisabeth Kübler-Ross, an expert on dying, have made natural death something to be shunned and feared.</td>
<td>8 pp.</td>
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<td></td>
<td>Kulman gives sound advice on how to evaluate evidence and assesses the accuracy of a scientific study.</td>
<td>6 pp.</td>
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<tr>
<th>A474</th>
<th>Dr. Michael Kurtz</th>
<th>\textit{Statement of Dr. Michael J. Kurtz, Chair, Nazi War Criminal Records} (2001)</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>The Chair of the Nazi War Criminal Records Interagency Working Group describes to the House Committee on Government Management, Information and Technology the charge of his agency to release all secret CIA military records on remaining hidden war criminals.</td>
<td>11 pp.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
A948  Maria L. LaGanca
NEW!  Tent City, USA (2009)
A Los Angeles Times journalist visits a Sacramento tent city, interviewing residents and reporting on efforts by humanitarian agencies and government officials to deal with the situation. 4 pp.

A949  Matt Labash
NEW!  Are We Having Fun Yet? The Infantilization of Corporate America (2008)
A journalist takes jabs at the “fun coaches” corporate America hire to keep workers synergized, empowered, and “lobotomized.” 9 pp.

A730  Jhumpa Lahiri
Interpreter of Maladies (1999)
In this short story by a Pulitzer Prize winning author, we encounter the Das family on a visit to India in which Mrs. Das reveals her secret. 21 pp.

A185  Robin Tolmach Lakoff
The Grooves of Academe (1990)
Linguist Robin Tolmach Lakoff discusses the hidden rules of language and demonstrates what those rules reveal about power relations in academic settings. 12 pp.

A525  A.A. Lamb
Emancipation Proclamation (1864)
This 1864 allegorical oil painting depicts the Americans who struggled to end slavery. 2 pp.

A413  Charles Lamb
Letter to Wordsworth (1801)
In this hilarious missive, Lamb explains to his good friend why he would rather die than leave the city to visit the country. 2 pp.

A851  Anne Lamott
Shitty First Drafts (1995)
Most writers write terrible stuff in their first drafts, and sometimes the fear of those drafts keeps writers from writing at all. In this humorous book chapter, Lamott tells how to go right ahead and write no matter how bad the first try. 5 pp.

A346  Larry M. Lance
Gender Differences in Heterosexual Dating: A Content Analysis of Personal Ads (1998)
A research study by Larry M. Lance reveals that men look primarily for attractiveness while women look for financial stability and status. 10 pp.

A636  Lewis H. Lapham
Social Hygiene (2003)
A writer for Harper's Magazine argues that New York City's ban on smoking is less a reflection of public health concerns than of the privileged classes' desire to dictate behavior according to their own tastes. 8 pp.

A369  John Laughland
A Coffee, a Smoke, and a Chat with Milosevic (2006)
In this report for The Spectator on his visit with accused war criminal Slobodan Milosevic, Laughland criticizes both the case against the former Yugoslav leader and the International Court at The Hague. 4 pp.

A369  Shirley Lauro
Open Admissions (1979)
In a tension-filled encounter between a frustrated white professor and a struggling African-American student, the shortcomings of open admissions policies in New York City colleges are dramatized. 12 pp.

A227  Barbara Lawrence
Four-Letter Words Can Hurt You (1973)
Barbara Lawrence discusses the ability of language to affect experience. 3 pp.

A950  D.H. Lawrence
NEW!  The Rocking-Horse Winner (1933)
In a loveless house, a young boy finds that he can please his cold mother by giving her money. He also learns that he can name the winners of horse races by riding his rocking horse. Finally, the excitement and the frantic fears in the house bring him to a tragic end. 16 pp.

A644  Emma Lazarus
The New Colossus (1883)
A nineteenth century poet celebrates America's embracing of immigrants in her poem, which is inscribed on the base of the Statue of Liberty. 2 pp.

A577  Stephen Leacock
How to Live to Be 200 (1910)
In his humorous essay, Leacock pokes fun at the art of “healthy” living and the attempt to stay young. 4 pp.
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>A732</th>
<th>Jennifer Lee</th>
<th>I Think, Therefore IM (2002)</th>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>In this article from the New York Times, a staff writer reports on “cyberlingo,” the teenagers who use it, and the teachers who must deal with it. 5 pp.</td>
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<tr>
<th>A733</th>
<th>Ursula K. LeGuin</th>
<th>The Ones Who Walk Away from Omelas (1973)</th>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>This science fiction story introduces the reader to a planned community in which all are happy and well fed. Under the city, however, lies something so hideous that young people of conscience walk away when they have seen the truth. 7 pp.</td>
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<td>Many writers and social critics have mourned the death of reading, especially the reading of books. LeGuin points out that book reading has always been and always will be the entertainment of the few and sturdy devotees of a text in hand. 9 pp.</td>
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<td></td>
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<td>The science fiction and fantasy writer tells the story of a woman who isolates herself for a month on the Oregon coast and tries to decipher the mysterious language written by sea foam. 3 pp.</td>
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<tr>
<th>A357</th>
<th>Nicholas Lemann</th>
<th>Ready, READ! (1998)</th>
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<tr>
<td></td>
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<td>Journalist Nicholas Lemann describes a controversial solution to the problem of failing schools. 19 pp.</td>
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<tr>
<th>A852</th>
<th>David Leonhardt</th>
<th>Maybe Money Does Buy Happiness After All (2008)</th>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>A journalist discusses two groundbreaking studies on the relationship between economic status and happiness. While many people assume that money does not buy happiness, some recent trends suggest quite the opposite. 4 pp.</td>
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<tr>
<th>A637</th>
<th>Eliza Leslie</th>
<th>Incorrect Words (1853)</th>
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<td></td>
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<td>In this excerpt from Miss Leslie’s Behaviour: A Guide and Manual for Ladies, a nineteenth century Philadelphia writer advises young ladies to pay attention to proper word choice and grammar lest they be considered lower-class. 6 pp.</td>
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<th>A119</th>
<th>Doris Lessing</th>
<th>My Father (1963)</th>
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<tr>
<td></td>
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<td>Writer Doris Lessing provides readers with a sensitive and moving portrait of her father, and in so doing tries to understand the meaning of his life. 9 pp.</td>
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<th>A734</th>
<th>Primo Levi</th>
<th>My House (1989)</th>
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<tr>
<td></td>
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<td>The famed Italian writer offers a profile and a memory piece of the house in Turin where he has lived all his life. 5 pp.</td>
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<td>A professor of philosophy sets forth an argument advocating the use of torture in cases where innocent lives can be saved. 4 pp.</td>
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<td>The Pulitzer Prize winning poet looks for the meaning of life in the things of the earth. 2 pp.</td>
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<td></td>
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<td>An economist and a journalist focus on cheating among schoolteachers and sumo wrestlers in order to examine the relationship between incentives and human behavior. 27 pp.</td>
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<tr>
<th>A607</th>
<th>Bernard Lewis</th>
<th>“I’m Right, You’re Wrong, Go To Hell”: Religions and the Meeting of Civilization (2003)</th>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>The term “clash of civilizations” has taken on new “questions on meaning” since the events of September 11, 2001. In the following essay, Lewis makes the case that Christianity and Islam might have more similarities than we previously thought. 10 pp.</td>
</tr>
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<tr>
<th>A735</th>
<th>Rod Liddle</th>
<th>Let’s Just Admit that Iraq was a Disaster (2006)</th>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>In a column for The Spectator, a British journalist argues that not only were Iraqis better off in Saddam Hussein’s last years of power, but the invasion and occupation of Iraq have fueled radical Islamic terrorism. 5 pp.</td>
</tr>
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</table>
42 Mercury Reader

A449 Abraham Lincoln
*The Emancipation Proclamation (1863)*
A careful reading of this famous document shows that Lincoln believed slaves should continue working where they were and avoid violence. 3 pp.

A054 Abraham Lincoln
*The Gettysburg Address (1863)*
In his famous speech, Lincoln attempts to consecrate a great Civil War battle ground. 2 pp.

A736 Phillip Longman
*The Return of Patriarchy (2006)*
A journalist argues from a historical perspective that low birth rates among secular liberals and high rates among religious conservatives will eventually result in resurgence of a patriarchal society. 11 pp.

A120 Barry Lopez
*Landscape and Narrative (1984)*
Barry Lopez, who has gained his reputation writing insightfully about nature, discusses the power of storytelling to lend purpose to life. 7 pp.

A534 Kathryn Jean Lopez
*The Cookie Crumbles: The Girl Scouts Go PC (2000)*
In this *National Review* article, a conservative journalist laments what she considers the Girl Scouts’ decision to give in to the pressures of political correctness. 4 pp.

A854 Stefan Lovgren
*Al Gore’s “Inconvenient Truth” Movie: Fact or Hype? (2006)*
A journalist consults scientific experts to evaluate claims made in an award-winning documentary on global warming. 4 pp.

A484 James Russell Lowell
*Letter to His Nephew (1849)*
A noted nineteenth-century American poet urges his fourteen-year-old nephew to learn from the natural world as well as from books. 3 pp.

A186 Min-zhan Lu
*From Silence to Words: Writing as Struggle (1987)*
Min-zhan Lu, a Chinese immigrant to the U.S. who now teaches composition and cultural studies at Drake University, relates her experiences both in China and the United States as a story about acquiring new literacies. 15 pp.

A234 David Ludlum
*The Climatology of America (1987)*
Observing that mythmaking is not exclusive to historical accounts, a meteorologist explores several myths about the climate of North America that prevailed during the first two hundred years of European settlement. 8 pp.

A121 Alison Lurie
*American Regional Costume (1981)*
In this excerpt from *The Language of Clothes*, Alison Lurie categorizes American geographic regions by the style of dress found there. 6 pp.

A122 Niccolò Machiavelli
*Of the Things for Which Men, and Especially, Princes, Are Praised or Blamed (1500)*
Niccolò Machiavelli, the famous observer of political conditions in Renaissance Italy, offers readers a view of his times and sheds some light on our contemporary world as well. 8 pp.

A605 Alistair MacLeod
*The Boat (1976)*
In this story, a man looks back on his childhood in a Canadian fishing village and reflects on memories of his sisters, mother, father, and the boat that bound them together. 18 pp.

A855 Ray Magliozzi
*Help us Overthrow the Short/Tall Mafia (2000)*
Magliozzi, co-host of National Public Radio's *Car Talk*, calls for a revolution against Starbucks. He suggests that we all go in and ask for two bucks’ worth of coffee, thus refusing to use the confusing size designations Starbucks dictates. 3 pp.

A055 Nancy Mairs
*On Being a Cripple (1986)*
An author, editor, and teacher offers an inside view of the challenges of having a debilitating disease. 13 pp.
A089 Malcolm X
*A Homemade Education (1964)*
Noted civil rights leader Malcolm X explains how teaching himself to read while in prison instilled in him a passionate thirst for education. **10 pp.**

A737 John Major
*There Is No Worldwide Terrorist Conspiracy (2006)*
The former Conservative Prime Minister of England argues that in order to combat terrorism effectively, democratic nations must employ a variety of measures—including addressing the underlying causes of terrorism. **5 pp.**

A578 Alberto Manguel
*Reading Ourselves and the World Around Us (1996)*
In an excerpt from his book, *A History of Reading*, the author describes the moment at which he realized that he could read. **3 pp.**

A856 Charles C. Mann
*Who Will Own Your Next Great Idea? (1998)*
Mann negotiates the complexities of copyright issues, showing that the copying of digital materials is inevitable and that the real issue is how the world will deal with the ownership of intellectual property. **7 pp.**

A857 Gregory Mantsios
*Class in America—2006 (2007)*
A professor of Worker Education at Queens College in New York discusses the myths surrounding class in the U.S.—the first being that we live in a “classless” society—and the realities of class domination. **17 pp.**

A617 Manning Marable
*The Failure of U.S. Foreign Policies (2002)*
In his Z-Net column a Columbia University professor of history and political science charges the United States with “complete contempt for international cooperation,” questioning whether the nation’s campaign against terrorism can succeed. **4 pp.**

A417 William March
*Aesop’s Last Fable (1960)*
The dull and moralizing Aesop gets his just desserts in this humorous send-up of fables. **2 pp.**

A858 Jason Mark
*Atomic Dreams: How the Nuclear Lobby Is Spinning Liberals, Lawmakers, and Grassroots Environmentalists (2007)*
In this selection from *Utne*, an editor from Earth Island Journal argues that the nuclear lobby has waged a powerful campaign about the need for nuclear energy, convincing even those who once opposed it. **11 pp.**

A740 Lucinda Marshall
*The Connection Between Militarism and Violence Against Women (2004)*
In an essay that originally appeared on Z-Net, the founder of the Feminist Peace Network exposes the effects of war upon women. **5 pp.**

A638 Paule Marshall
*From the Poets in the Kitchen (1983)*
An African-American novelist traces her narrative art to the women who gathered to tell stories in her mother’s kitchen. **10 pp.**

A859 Courtney E. Martin
*Love Your Fat Self: Rejecting Fear, Loathing, and Sacrifice (2007)*
In this article from *Utne*, the author profiles her friend Gareth’s struggles with obesity and the public perception that is “sizeism.” **8 pp.**

A953 Courtney E. Martin
*NEW! The People’s Professor: Community Education Goes Ivy League (2009)*
A New York writer profiles a Barnard College professor who, following Ghandi’s advice to “be the change you wish to see in the world,” regularly opened his classroom to the residents of Harlem. **9 pp.**

A521 Henry Martin
*Writer’s Block (1987)*
Martin’s *New Yorker* cartoon offers a pun on the meaning of the word block. **2 pp.**

A545 Groucho Marx
*Letters to and from T.S. Eliot (1967)*
Initiated in 1961 by Groucho Marx of the Marx Brothers, a correspondence between the comic actor and Nobel Prize winning poet T.S. Eliot provides an unlikely conversation between two very different, renowned people. **10 pp.**
A522  Michael Maslin  
*Summons for Reckless Grammar* (1987)  
Maslin’s *New Yorker* cartoon pokes fun at strict grammar rules—and those who advocate them. 2 pp.

A860  Scott Matthews  
*Copying Isn’t Cool* (2003)  
Music companies have been accused of bullying those who copy music online, but this essay argues that legal alternatives that might appear to resolve this issue also would interfere with civil liberties and free trade. 4 pp.

A268  Frank McConnell  
*Seinfeld* (1996)  
Frank McConnell explains the appeal of the long-running television sitcom. 4 pp.

A418  Daniel McGinn  
*The Big Score* (1999)  
In this article, McGinn reports on the increased use of high-stakes standardized tests in public education, the politics surrounding this trend, and some of the questions about the practice. 6 pp.

A954  Peggy McIntosh  
A Women’s Studies scholar examines the unacknowledged advantages enjoyed by white people in U.S. culture, arguing that these invisible privileges inevitably lead to oppression of people of color. 6 pp.

A741  Bill McKibben  
A self-described Christian environmentalist argues that the primary messages of American Christianity are polar opposites to the message of the Gospels. 12 pp.

A955  Bill McKibben  
In an article from 1989, the well-known environmentalist informs us that scientists have been predicting a greenhouse effect for far longer than most of us know. 8 pp.

A862  John McMurtry  
*Kill ’Em! Crush ’Em! Eat ’Em Raw!* (1971)  
This essay shows how aggression in sports can correlate with and lead to aggression on a national and international scale. McMurtry’s own experience led him to view organized sports, especially football, as soul—and body—destroying. 7 pp.

A956  John McPhee  
This essay might be described as humorous grizzly because McPhee describes all the terrible and even unbiblical things he has eaten while traveling for his former editor William Shawn. The essay is both funny and kindly sentimental. 16 pp.

A056  Margaret Mead  
*A Day in Samoa* (1928)  
In this account of Samoan culture, anthropologist Margaret Mead describes various cultural rituals in steady detail in order to achieve an objective point of view. 4 pp.

A057  Margaret Mead and Rhoda Metraux  
*On Friendship* (1961)  
Two anthropologists, Margaret Mead and Rhoda Metraux, put the concept of friendship in cultural perspective for a lay audience. 5 pp.

A293  Mary Mebane  
*The Scheme of Color* (1982)  
Writer Mary Mebane characterizes the racial prejudices of both white and black people in this selection from *Mary: An Autobiography*. 4 pp.

A742  Herman Melville  
*Bartleby, the Scrivener* (1853)  
Quietly and persistently declining to act according to normal expectations, a solitary young man disrupts not only his workplace but the world view of his employer/benefactor. 36 pp.

A502  Frank H. Mentz  
A father writes to the U.S. Congress questioning the legitimacy of a war that took his son’s life. 2 pp.
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Code</th>
<th>Author</th>
<th>Title</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>A743</td>
<td>Fatema Mernissi</td>
<td>Size 6: The Western Woman's Harem (2002)</td>
<td>Moroccan women must merely hide their faces and live in a harem, but western women have male domination inscribed into their flesh by the demands of a size 6 world. This author thanks God that she is not a western woman but a Muslim who can eat what she wants.</td>
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<tr>
<td>A361</td>
<td>Jack Miles</td>
<td>Religion Makes a Comeback. (Belief to Follow.) (1998)</td>
<td>Pulitzer Prize winning theologian Jack Miles analyzes the increased interest in religion in America.</td>
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<tr>
<td>A058</td>
<td>Stanley Milgram</td>
<td>The Perils of Obedience (1974)</td>
<td>Psychologist Stanley Milgram creates an experiment designed to see how far people will go when obeying orders and offers disturbing insights into human nature.</td>
<td>15</td>
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<tr>
<td>A744</td>
<td>Stanley Milgram and Paul Hollander</td>
<td>The Murder They Heard (1964)</td>
<td>A noted psychologist and a young sociologist explore the reasons for neighbors' failure to act when a young woman was being stabbed to death on the street below their apartment building.</td>
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<tr>
<td>A228</td>
<td>Casey Miller and Kate Swift</td>
<td>Who's in Charge of the English Language? (1990)</td>
<td>In this talk to university professors, Professors Miller and Swift illustrate the sexist nature of the English language and call for greater gender sensitivity.</td>
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<td>A269</td>
<td>Mark Crispin Miller</td>
<td>Deride and Conquer (1986)</td>
<td>Professor and cultural critic Miller explains the effects of television on audiences.</td>
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<td>A270</td>
<td>Neil Miller</td>
<td>Gay Teachers, Gay Students (1995)</td>
<td>Neil Miller describes how certain high schools are dealing with the concerns of gay students and receiving gay teachers.</td>
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<tr>
<td>A506</td>
<td>Wiley Miller</td>
<td>Filling the Open Mind in the Information Age (1996)</td>
<td>In his Non Sequitur comic, political cartoonist Wiley Miller satirizes Americans’ resistance to any information that challenges their own narrow views.</td>
<td>2</td>
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<tr>
<td>A123</td>
<td>Czeslaw Milosz</td>
<td>American Ignorance of War (1951)</td>
<td>Lithuanian writer Czeslaw Milosz draws from his knowledge about war to explain what happens to people's thinking about social problems when they lack direct experience with totalitarianism.</td>
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<tr>
<td>A745</td>
<td>Horace Miner</td>
<td>Body Ritual Among the Nacirema (1956)</td>
<td>A well-know anthropologist addresses his colleagues in a tongue-in-cheek essay first published in the journal American Anthropologist.</td>
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<td>A059</td>
<td>Jessica Mitford</td>
<td>Beyond the Formaldehyde Curtain (1963)</td>
<td>Known for her exposés, Jessica Mitford gives us a disturbing inside view of the mortuary business.</td>
<td>9</td>
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<td>A124</td>
<td>N. Scott Momaday</td>
<td>The Way to Rainy Mountain (1969)</td>
<td>Well-known Native American writer N. Scott Momaday gives us a portrait of his grandmother and, in the process, reveals things about himself.</td>
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<tr>
<td>A450</td>
<td>Lady Mary Whortley Montagu</td>
<td>Letter to Her Daughter (1700)</td>
<td>In this eighteenth-century letter, Montagu counsels her daughter that a woman must not appear too bright but must be learned enough to keep herself entertained throughout life.</td>
<td>2</td>
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<tr>
<td>A746</td>
<td>Michel Eyquem de Montaigne</td>
<td>On the Education of Children (1592)</td>
<td>This essay provides commentary that is still quite useful today and is in line with the thinking of other great educational philosophers such as John Dewey and Maria Montessori. The author argues for allowing the child to discover life interests freely and to find a vocation suitable to those interests.</td>
<td>11</td>
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<tr>
<td>A747</td>
<td>Maria Montessori</td>
<td>The Montessori Method (1912)</td>
<td>Children learn when they are free to follow their own impulses and to discover the world for themselves. They do not learn when they are locked in place and made to sit still and follow someone else's agenda. Montessori argues against all punishments and for rewards that encourage the child to follow his or her own path.</td>
<td>11</td>
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A600  Rick Moody  
*Fish Story* (2003)  
In the story of Jonah and the Whale, Jonah flees from Israel by ship to escape God’s commandment. He is cast into the sea, swallowed by great fish, survives, and is thus prepared to return to do God’s will. Here, Moody offers his own version of this ancient tale that is bound to surprise and challenge the reader with its possibly controversial spin and, sometimes, strong language. 19 pp.

A748  Rick Moody  
*The Joy and Enthusiasm of Reading* (2005)  
A fiction writer describes his love of books in this radio essay from National Public Radio series *This I Believe*. 2 pp.

A749  Michael Moore  
This chapter from his 2002 book *Stupid White Men . . . and other sorry excuses for the state of the nation!* shines a light on what he considers the abysmal state of American education, alternating raucous humor with bitter social commentary. 19 pp.

A475  Sarah Milburn Moore  
*Convenient Prejudice* (1999)  
In a letter to *Natural History*, Moore agrees with science writer Stephen Gould that the great J.B.S. Haldane’s claim that Africans were immune to poison gas was the “silliest statement” Haldane ever made. 2 pp.

A060  Desmond Morris  
*Territorial Behavior* (1977)  
Zoologist Desmond Morris categorizes the territorial nature of the human animal. 10 pp.

A750  Walter Mosley  
The award winning author of several novels and many short stories calls upon African-Americans to lead the nation on a course toward peace. 8 pp.

A958  Leyla Muedin  
*NEW! The Way We Were* (2010)  
Human biology remains the same as hunter-gatherer ancestors who ate only lean meat, fish, fruits, and vegetables. Current-day humans should avoid all grains and dairy products as well as salt and animal fat. 3 pp.

A959  Bharati Mukherjee  
*NEW! Two Ways to Belong in America* (1996)  
In this essay from the *New York Times*, a well-known novelist and short story writer of East Indian descent contrasts her experience with cultural assimilation with that of her sister. Although the piece appeared in 1996, it speaks to more current arguments about immigration policy and the status of immigrants in the U.S. today. 5 pp.

A580  Alice Munro  
*A Walk on the Wild Side* (1990)  
Recalling her childhood in rural Ontario, Canada’s foremost short story writer issues a plea to the government to provide access to open land, something she considers a necessity in any community. 4 pp.

A648  Alice Munro  
*Boys and Girls* (1968)  
While growing up on a farm, a young girl gradually becomes aware of the different expectations of girls and boys. 15 pp.

A061  Donald M. Murray  
*The Maker’s Eye: Revising Your Own Manuscripts* (1973)  
Famous writing teacher Donald M. Murray describes how writers approach the revision process, and how their attitudes influence the outcome. 5 pp.

A863  Duncan Murrell  
*In the Year of the Storm* (2007)  
In this selection from *Harper’s*, the author offers a gritty personal account of his observations and experiences while living in New Orleans for nearly a year after Katrina. 31 pp.

A581  Naheed Mustafa  
*My Body is My Own Business* (1993)  
In this essay, a young Canadian defends her choice to wear the traditional Muslim hajib. According to Mustafa, the sexes will only be equal when women no longer need to objectify their bodies. 2 pp.

A419  Seth Mydans  
*Not Just the Inner City: Well-to-Do Join Gangs* (1990)  
Well-to-do youth are forming “copycat” or “yuppie” gangs as a way to rebel against their parents and fit in with their peers. This dangerous trend has caught parents, teachers, and law-enforcement officials off guard. 5 pp.
A317 Richard Nadler
*Low Class: How Progressive Education Hurts the Poor and Minorities* (1998)
Journalist Richard Nadler argues that progressive education, rather than empowering poor and minority children, actually prevents them from achieving equality. 5 pp.

A751 Azar Nafisi
*Mysterious Connections that Link Us Together* (2005)
In this radio essay from the National Public Radio Series *This I Believe*, an Iranian-born writer discusses the role of empathy in human relations. 2 pp.

A499 Ted Nancy
*Letter to MGM Grand Hotel* (1997)
Assuming his letter-writing alter ego, comedian Jerry Seinfeld offers tongue-in-cheek compliments to the cab-stand attendants at a Las Vegas hotel. 3 pp.

A526 The National Archives
*Photograph of Susan B. Anthony and Elizabeth Cady Stanton* (1880)
This portrait of two founders of the women’s rights movement was taken sometime between 1880 and 1902 by an unknown photographer and is housed at the Library of Congress's National Archives. 2 pp.

A527 The National Archives
*Photograph of the First Picket Line* (1917)
This photograph of several Suffragettes, housed at the Library of Congress's National Archives, was taken in 1917 by an unknown photographer and records the first picket line ever to form in the United States in front of the White House. 2 pp.

A468 The National Archives
*Jackie Robinson* (1950)
This photograph, housed at the Library of Congress's National Archives, shows Robinson at his peak. The first black athlete in the United States to gain fame in America, Robinson demonstrated both personal strength and public dignity. 1 p.

A457 National Council of Teachers of English
*The List of Standards for the English Language Arts* (2001)
In this document teachers argue for quality language arts education in their schools. 3 pp.

A864 National Eating Disorders Association
*Enhancing Male Body Image* (2005)
This list suggests ways that men can develop a positive view of themselves no matter what the body shapes that they have. The list suggests an appreciation of the whole person and lifestyle rather than an emphasis on the one-size-fits-all athlete’s form. 2 pp.

A865 National Endowment for the Arts
*Reading At Risk* (2004)
These ten graphs illustrate the essence of the NEA report on Reading at Risk. The graphs show a decline in every type of reading but especially in reading by males and by the youngest members of the national population. 10 pp.

A513 Bill Nave, Edward Miech, and Frederick Mosteller
*A Lapse in Standards: Linking Standards-Based Reform With Student Achievement* (2000)
This scholarly article reviews and largely discounts research suggesting that large-scale testing has positive effects on education. 14 pp.

A062 Gloria Naylor
Gloria Naylor reveals that language is a cultural artifact in all its complexity and power. 4 pp.

A721 Fraser Nelson
*Where Have All the Babies Gone?* (2006)
The falling birth rate in countries throughout Europe, claims a United Kingdom journalist, has long-term implications for the entire world. 4 pp.

A752 Pablo Neruda
*United Fruit Co.* (1950)
A Nobel Prize winning author indicts, in surreal images, the corrupt multinational corporations. 3 pp.

A784 The New York Times
*Cesar Chavez at a Demonstration* (1969)
The great civil rights activist and union organizer rallies workers at a demonstration to boycott against grape growers. 1 p.

A785 The New York Times
*Newark Riots* (1967)
Six days of rioting in Newark, New Jersey was set off by the arrest and rumored death of a cab driver at the hands of the police. 1 p.
A753  Friedrich Nietzsche
*Morality as Anti-Nature (1888)*
In this excerpt from *The Twilight of the Idols*, the great German philosopher advances the argument that religious morality is counter to the natural human behavior. 11 pp.

A063  Aileen Pace Nilsen
*Sexism in English: A 1990s Update (1990)*

A374  Susan Nunes
*A Moving Day (1990)*
As she helps her aging parents move from the home in which she grew up, a Japanese-American woman contemplates her own past as well as her family’s past. 7 pp.

A754  Martha Nussbaum
*The Narrative Imagination (1997)*
A professor of law and ethics explains why literature is necessary to preserve the best elements of a democratic society. 12 pp.

A639  Samantha Nutt
*Freedom Denied (2003)*
The director of an international child welfare agency reports that despite the fall of the Taliban in Afghanistan, women in that country still live in fear and under oppression. 6 pp.

A960  Joyce Carol Oates
*NEW! Going Home Again (2010)*
One of the most accomplished and prolific writers in the United States revisits her childhood home, speculating on the ways in which her past has made her who she is as a person and as a writer. 11 pp.

A125  Joyce Carol Oates
*On Boxing (1987)*
Prolific writer Joyce Carol Oates offers a philosophical examination of a violent sport. 3 pp.

A064  Joyce Carol Oates
Contemporary fiction writer Joyce Carol Oates tells a story of a young woman and her first confrontation with the dangers of modern society. 17 pp.

A867  Barack Obama
*A More Perfect Union (2008)*
In response to criticism of his former pastor’s controversial positions, a then-2008 presidential candidate examines the role played by race in the history of the United States, arguing that the issue cannot be dismissed or trivialized. 13 pp.

A678  John O’Brien
*Cinderella on a Talk Show (2003)*
A *New Yorker* cartoon juxtaposes fairy tales and popular culture to poke fun at the concept of celebrity memoir as therapy. 2 pp.

A866  Tim O’Brien
*How to Tell a True War Story (1990)*
A Vietnam veteran recounts horrors that may or may not have happened during the war, all in an attempt to explain what a true war story is. 14 pp.

A420  Tim O’Brien
*The Things They Carried (1990)*
A young lieutenant in Vietnam who blames himself for the death of one of his men vows to carry no more fantasies about his secret love for a college girl in the states. 14 pp.

A961  Flannery O’Connor
*NEW! Everything That Rises Must Converge (1965)*
Julian resents his mother’s optimism and her innocence about the nature of the world. He resents her attitudes toward the poor and toward minorities, but he especially resents her inability to see the world in his own skeptical and angry way. Then she dies, and he finds out how he really feels. 15 pp.

A304  Flannery O’Connor
*A Good Man Is Hard to Find (1953)*
In one of the acclaimed southern novelist’s most vivid stories, a moment of shocking violence brings a family hardened by everyday life to a clear picture of reality. 16 pp.

A755  Flannery O’Connor
*Good Country People (1953)*
*Good Country People* shows the plight of a brilliant intellectual trying to live among people who neither appreciate nor tolerate her worldview. At the same time, the story questions the values of those who live only in their heads. 20 pp.
A421  Frank O'Connor  
*Guests of the Nation* (1931)  
The innocence of a pair of young soldiers is shattered as an order of execution causes them to question their loyalties and the meaning of duty.  
13 pp.

A504  Jack Ohman  
*Supermodel* (1996)  
In this *Mixed Media* comic, Ohman captures the extremes to which aspiring models must go in order to be considered attractive enough for today's standards.  
2 pp.

A065  Tillie Olsen  
*I Stand Here Ironing* (1956)  
Olsen characterizes the relationship between a mother and her daughter, and in the process reveals certain universal tensions in such relationships.  
8 pp.

A582  Michael Ondaatje  
In his description of how a colony affects those who colonize it, Ondaatje illustrates his place in the postcolonial canon.  
2 pp.

A962  The Onion  
*NEW!*  
*All Seven Deadly Sins Committed at Church Bake Sale* (2001)  
In this essay, the long-hollowed church tradition of fattening the faithful at bake sales provides an opportunity to satirize both church tradition and the ladies who bake.  
3 pp.

A756  The Onion  
*Evangelical Scientists Refute Gravity with New 'Intelligent Falling' Theory* (2005)  
Parodying the controversial theory of intelligent design, a popular satiric news weekly reports on a faith-based alternative to the theory of gravity.  
3 pp.

A126  George Orwell  
*A Hanging* (1950)  
In this famous selection, George Orwell explores the ethics of personal involvement with British occupation of India earlier in this century.  
6 pp.

A066  George Orwell  
*Politics and the English Language* (1950)  
A leading writer of his day, George Orwell in this essay suggests that the state of language is a reflection of the state of society.  
14 pp.

A187  George Orwell  
*The Principles of Newspeak* (1949)  
In the appendix to the classic *1984*, Orwell describes the degraded language in the fictional state of Oceania.  
12 pp.

A067  George Orwell  
*Shooting an Elephant* (1950)  
Orwell offers an account of a personal experience that forces readers to reflect on the nature of colonialism.  
8 pp.

A068  George Orwell  
*Why I Write* (1953)  
In this autobiographical essay, George Orwell recounts the lifelong influences that made him a writer.  
8 pp.

A757  Frances Osborne  
A British writer contemplates the significance of individual lives caught up in historic events, arguing that these simple stories speak more powerfully than statistics.  
4 pp.

A451  Jeremiah P. Ostriker  
*Recipe for a Universe* (2000)  
In his review of Martin Rees's book, *Just Six Numbers: The Deep Forces That Shape the Universe*, Ostriker explains, without using math, that numbers can reveal everything about the nature of the universe.  
3 pp.

A359  Cynthia Ozick  
*She: Portrait of the Essay as a Warm Body* (1998)  
Essayist and fiction writer Cynthia Ozick distinguishes the genuine essay from its meeker cousins.  
8 pp.

A656  Clarence Page  
*Candid Dialogue Key to Curbing Race Generalizations* (2003)  
Racial stereotypes often suggest attitudes that are completely inaccurate; for example, black people do sunburn and do live in very cold climates. Page maintains that people continue to misunderstand racial differences and similarities.  
3 pp.

A514  Camille Paglia  
Paglia argues that European philosophers are an overrated group of derivative thinkers, and that their work should be replaced with that of Marshall McLuhan, Leslie Fiedler, and Norman Brown.  
5 pp.
Camille Paglia
*Rape: A Bigger Danger than Feminists Know* (1988)
Camille Paglia characterizes the war of the sexes and offers women a dire warning. 5 pp.

Thomas Paine
*Rights of Man* (1792)
In this foundational American document, Thomas Paine explains the meaning of inalienable rights. 4 pp.

Grace Paley
*Love* (1986)
Famous for her short stories, Grace Paley gives us a slice of life view of marriage at middle age. 4 pp.

Laura Byrne Paquet
*From Mesopotamia to Minneapolis: It’s a Mall World* (2003)
With humor Paquet shows that malls and shopping have been a part of the human scene about as long as there have been humans. The essay traces shopping from the Greek city states in the b.c.e. era to the mall around the corner. Nothing changes but the prices. 16 pp.

Vincent N. Parillo
*Causes of Prejudice* (1997)
A prominent sociologist examines the psychological and sociological factors that lead to racial, ethnic, and religious prejudice. 16 pp.

Jeff Parker
This cartoon comments on the widening gap between high-income and low-income workers in society, especially U.S. society today. 2 pp.

Orlando Patterson
*An Eternal Revolution* (2008)
In an Op-Ed essay that appeared in the *New York Times*, a professor of sociology at Harvard regards Barack Obama's presidential victory as “part of an ever-evolving process” rather than “as a radical transition” to a new era. The author focuses on the significance of this “eternal revolution” as it pertains to “blacks, women and the young.” 4 pp.

Orlando Patterson
*Race Over* (2000)
A Harvard professor, originally from Jamaica, speculates on the reasons why he believes race as a social issue will disappear in America in the next century. 4 pp.

Orlando Patterson
*Why We Still Need Affirmative Action* (1997)
Sociologist Orlando Patterson responds to those who would deny the recent gains of African-Americans. 23 pp.

Carolyn Pavia-Rauchman
*Honda Insight* (2000)
In her *Autoweek* review, the author briefly introduces the most fuel-efficient Honda and notes its tendency to attract attention. 2 pp.

Noel Perrin
A professor of English and environmental studies, Noel Perrin defines androgynous and reexamines society's stereotypes of masculine and feminine. 4 pp.

Carlo Petrini
*Excerpt from Slow Food: A Case for Taste* (2001)
Petrini, the author who started the “slow food” movement, describes people’s changing relationship to food. The fast food trend, he asserts, has cut humans off from the senses, social life, and nature itself. 7 pp.

Alexander Petrunkevitch
*The Spider and the Wasp* (1952)
Alexander Petrunkevitch, a leading zoologist of his time, describes the dramatic relationship between these two creatures. 6 pp.

Andrew Phillips
A journalist discusses the “incoherence of American drug laws,” citing a case in which a woman caught watering marijuana plants flees to Canada in the attempt to escape the California courts. 3 pp.

Pablo Picasso
*Guernica* (1937)
The images in Guernica portray the horrors of war and dictatorship. The painting has been said to portray not only the massacre in Spain that inspired it but to foreshadow the worse horrors of war that were to follow its creation. 2 pp.
A965  Marge Piercy  
**NEW!**  *Barbie Doll (1982)*  
This poem explains that the culture teaches women that they should notice and try to improve their flaws, even if it kills them. 3 pp.  

A583  Catherine Pigott  
**NEW!**  *Chicken Hips (1990)*  
Personal experience and Katherine Gilday’s documentary, *The Famine Within*, inspired Pigott to write this essay about the difficulties women face in the quest to feel at peace with weight and body image. 3 pp.  

A759  Steven Pinker  
*Against Nature (1997)*  
Simple natural selection based on genetic combination and recombination cannot explain much of human nature. Pinker shows that human motives often contradict the strict rule of genetic selection for fitness and survival. 7 pp.  

A872  Steven Pinker  
*The Blank Slate (2002)*  
Pinker takes on the difficult question of nature and nurture. Do our parents and our culture make us what we are, or are we destined by our genes to act in certain prescribed ways? He traces a variety of kinds of evidence, all of which show that both are true at the same time. 12 pp.  

A668  Sylvia Plath  
*Bitter Strawberries (1960)*  
A child momentarily experiences all the violence of the world in the taste of strawberries. 2 pp.  

A318  Sylvia Plath  
*Daddy (1963)*  
A confused young woman struggles to reconcile conflicting feelings of anger and grief twenty years after her father’s early death. 4 pp.  

A128  Plato  
*The Allegory of the Cave (380s B.C.E.)*  
Plato, as a student of Socrates, offers a parable that dramatizes the difference between the physical and the ideal. 5 pp.  

A129  Plato  
*The Crito (380s B.C.E.)*  
In this dialogue by the ancient Greek philosopher, Plato presents Socrates’ argument for obeying the laws of the state. 14 pp.  

A424  Edgar Allan Poe  
*The Cask of Amontillado (1846)*  
A long-standing grudge leads a man of questionable sanity to exact a chilling revenge up on his perceived enemy. 7 pp.  

A377  Edgar Allan Poe  
*Ligeia (1838)*  
In Poe’s almost supernatural story, a man loses his beloved wife and attempts—unsuccessfully—to rebuild his life. 14 pp.  

A966  Edgar Allan Poe  
**NEW!**  *The Tell-Tale Heart (1843)*  
In this classic horror story, a madman recounts in lurid detail his attempt to commit the perfect murder, and the shocking event that reveals his guilt. 6 pp.  

A516  David Pogue  
*Take My Privacy, Please (2000)*  
In this commentary Pogue asserts that the risks to privacy posed by the Internet are exaggerated. 3 pp.  

A873  Michael Pollan  
*Excerpt from The Omnivore’s Dilemma (2006)*  
A journalist discusses the advantages and disadvantages—the paradox—of “dietary flexibility,” flexibility enjoyed for better or for worse by humans alone. 15 pp.  

A271  Katha Pollitt  
*The Smurfette Principle (1991)*  
Poet and essayist Katha Pollitt focuses on children’s television and explains how it promotes sexism. 4 pp.  

A760  Katha Pollitt  
*What’s Wrong with Gay Marriage? (2003)*  
Writing for *The Nation*, Pollitt offers her pointed response to the controversy surrounding the decision by the Massachusetts Supreme Court granting gays the right to marriage. 4 pp.  

A130  Katha Pollitt  
*Why I Hate “Family Values” (Let Me Count the Ways) (1992)*  
Katha Pollitt attacks conservative critics on their use of the family values platform. 9 pp.
A323  Ramesh Ponnuru  
*The New Myths (1998)*  
Many political positions and even some social policies develop not from facts and research but from myths, argues journalist Ramesh Ponnuru. 6 pp.

A315  Katherine Anne Porter  
*Maria Concepción (1930)*  
Writer Katherine Anne Porter tells the story of a Mexican woman's lost love, her desperate response, and her struggle to overcome anger and betrayal. 19 pp.

A069  Neil Postman  
*Future Shlock (1988)*  
Neil Postman, a prolific writer on the cultural scene, expresses his worries about the effects of television on our ability to think critically. 10 pp.

A486  Elvis Presley  
*Letter to President Richard M. Nixon (1970)*  
In this letter to the U.S. President, a rock 'n' roll superstar whose fame has been eclipsed offers to be a “Federal Agent at Large” and a liaison to “hippies” in the war on drugs. 2 pp.

A875  Francine Prose  
*I Know Why the Caged Bird Cannot Read: How American High School Students Learn to Loathe Literature (1999)*  
This essay asks why present-day students are not asked to read more challenging texts. Prose argues that morally simplistic texts either bore or indulge readers without asking them to think critically. 14 pp.

A549  Annie Proulx  
*People in Hell Just Want a Drink of Water (1999)*  
In this short story from *GQ* magazine Proulx tells the tale of two families and their historical ties to each other and to the wild country of Wyoming. 16 pp.

A487  The Pullman Strikers  
*Statement to the Convention of the American Railway Union (1894)*  
Seeking the support of their union, strike organizers cite the grievances against the company that led to the great Pullman Strike of 1894. 4 pp.

A876  Andrew Purvis  
*Marseille’s Ethnic Bouillabaisse (2007)*  
A journalist seeks to understand why in Marseille, unlike so many other European cities, people of different ethnic origins and religious traditions live together in harmony. 8 pp.

A131  Mario Puzo  
*Choosing a Dream: Italians in Hell’s Kitchen (1971)*  
The author of *The Godfather* gives a disturbing portrait of his childhood in realistic detail. 10 pp.

A877  David Quammen  
*Contagious Cancer: The Evolution of a Killer (2008)*  
A well-known writer of scientific topics recounts the discovery of an infectious cancer among Tasmanian devils, the marsupials that inhabit the island off the coast of Australia. 20 pp.

A878  B. Allan Quigley  
*Knowledge Is Not Enough: Advancing Health Literacy through Lessons from History (2004)*  
In this documented essay, Quigley shows that school literacy education can fail many students and leave the need for adult literacy programs, some of which could be improved through lessons from history. 7 pp.

A231  Anna Quindlen  
*Abortion Is Too Complex to Feel All One Way About (1986)*  
Citing the ambiguities surrounding the abortion issue, columnist Anna Quindlen acknowledges neither an absolute moral right to abortion nor an absolute legal prohibition against it. 4 pp.

A425  Anna Quindlen  
*The C Word in the Hallways (1999)*  
The journalist argues that the dramatic rise in teen suicide and homicide is attributable in part to society’s refusal to acknowledge and treat serious mental health problems in adolescents. 4 pp.

A132  Anna Quindlen  
*Gay (1987)*  
Using the story of the death of a gay man, journalist Anna Quindlen pleads with parents to accept their children for who, not what, they are. 3 pp.
A133 Anna Quindlen
*Our Animal Rites (1990)*
Becoming accustomed to living in the country convinces journalist Anna Quindlen that animals, not humans, own the land. 3 pp.

A967 Quintilian
*NEW! The Study of Rhetoric (95 c.e.)*
This passage discusses the ideal education of a young student of rhetoric. Quintilian notes the best kind of teacher as well as the curriculum that will be best for a young man (they were all men in Roman schools). 11 pp.

A968 David Rakoff
*NEW! What Is the Sound of One Hand Shopping? (2005)*
The rich spend too much time finding ways to look posh and poor at the same time. In this humorous essay, Rakoff satirizes those who have too much money and too much time on their hands. 7 pp.

A969 David Rakoff
*NEW! What'sizeface (2005)*
Plastic surgery often seems to offer miraculous transformations of the face and body. In this chapter from *Don’t Get Too Comfortable*, Rakoff visits two Beverly Hills plastic surgeons to find out what they could do for him. 9 pp.

A426 Janet Raloff
*The Color of Honey (1998)*
Depending on the flower source, honey can provide both antibiotic and antioxidant protection; research is in progress to evaluate types of honey and their value to consumers. 7 pp.

A330 Janet Raloff
*Democratizing Science (1998)*
Explaining how small groups of scientists work together with community members to solve small and large environmental problems, science reporter Janet Raloff makes a case for increased support of science shops. 7 pp.

A879 Janet Raloff
*Inflammatory Fat (2004)*
Raloff analyzes the research that shows how dangerous fat is to health and discusses the specific biological connections that make fat so dangerous. 10 pp.

A454 Janet Raloff
*Researchers Probe Cell Phones Effects (2000)*
Raloff reviews research studies that show the effects of cell phone usage on the human ear and brain. She notes that cell phone waves seem to improve mental functioning in some subjects. 3 pp.

A970 Janet Raloff
*NEW! Weed Killer in the Crosshairs (2010)*
Concentrations of atrazine, a weed killer, in the water correlate with sexual defects in infants, low birth rate, and a variety of animal deformities in creatures ranging from rats to alligators. Previous research showing the safety of the poison now is giving way to recent studies that show the herbicide to be dangerous and possibly extremely harmful. 7 pp.

A134 William Raspberry
*The Handicap of Definition (1982)*
African-American journalist William Raspberry explores the dangers in definitions of “blackness” that focus solely on prowess in sports or entertainment. 3 pp.

A762 John Rawls
*A Theory of Justice (1967)*
The social contract, as explained by the great British moral philosopher, Thomas Hobbes, suggests that justice benefits as many in the society as possible and rests on the compliance of all. Rawls adds to this concept by asking that the contract also include an agreement to protect the weak and the needy as well as deal justly with those who own and control the society. 7 pp.

A135 Ishmael Reed
*America: The Multicultural Society (1983)*
The controversy over multiculturalism is meaningless, writes African-American essayist Ishmael Reed, because multiculturalism has existed on this continent for hundreds of years. 5 pp.

A353 Robert B. Reich
*Broken Faith: Why We Need to Renew the Social Compact (1998)*
Claiming that economic recovery in the United States has had little benefit for the lower half of the economic rung, former Secretary of Labor Robert B. Reich offers a plan to solve the problem. 10 pp.
A537  Alan Reynolds and Richard Nadler  
*We’re Number One (Percent): What’s Right About the Rich and Always with Us: ... and Wrong About the Poor (2000)*  
In these companion articles from the *National Review*, two journalists define the characteristics of the rich and the poor. **10 pp.**

A669  David Adams Richards  
*Dane (1982)*  
This touching story recounts the short life of a gentle but unruly neighborhood athlete and comic. **5 pp.**

A584  David Adams Richards  
*My Old Newcastle (1993)*  
In his short essay Richards evokes the feeling of the lost world of youth—a feeling that even the youngest reader at times has experienced. **3 pp.**

A585  Mordecai Richler  
*1944: The Year I Learned to Love a German (1986)*  
A Jewish novelist recalls that during the darkest days of the Holocaust during which he read a book about a German soldier that transformed both his understanding of the power of books, and the universality of human experience. **7 pp.**

A971  Matt Richtel  
*NEW! Hooked on Gadgets, and Paying a Mental Price (2010)*  
A Pulitzer Prize winning journalist profiles the Campbell family and the effects of multitasking on their well-being. In doing so, the author attempts to disrupt various myths about multitasking society has come to accept. **11 pp.**

A272  Paul Roberts  
*How to Say Nothing in 500 Words (1958)*  
Linguist Paul Roberts advises students on how to avoid writing the typical vacuous 500-word college essay. **13 pp.**

A453  Jackie Robinson  
*Letter to the President (1958)*  
Robinson tells President Eisenhower that his people can no longer wait for the rights they deserve. **2 pp.**

A428  Kim Stanley Robinson  
*Why We Should Go to Mars (1999)*  
A science fiction writer argues that sending humans to Mars will teach us as much about Earth as it will about Mars. **3 pp.**

A354  Gregory Rodriguez  
*English Lesson in California (1998)*  
Public policy researcher and writer Gregory Rodriguez explains why support for bilingual education is diminishing. **8 pp.**

A136  Richard Rodriguez  
*Complexion (1982)*  
Richard Rodriguez traces his love of language and literature—women's interests in his Mexican-American culture—to his early shame over the darkness of his skin, leaving him feeling less than a man. **6 pp.**

A071  Richard Rodriguez  
*The Fear of Losing a Culture (1988)*  
As Latin Americans embrace assimilation, a noted Mexican-American writer claims, a marriage between Protestant northern influences and Catholic southern influences will redefine American culture. **4 pp.**

A880  Richard Rodriguez  
In this essay from *Harper's* magazine, the author takes us on a journey to Jerusalem to understand the desert, a place of emptiness, from which three world religions emerged. **20 pp.**

A072  Richard Rodriguez  
*Public and Private Language (1982)*  
A respected Mexican-American writer uses the distinction between the private language of the family and the public language of the community to argue against bilingual education. **12 pp.**

A137  Richard Rodriguez  
*Workers (1982)*  
A college summer spent working as a construction laborer convinces Mexican-American writer Richard Rodriguez that there is a world of difference between him and the Mexican migrants whose lives are circumscribed by such work. **7 pp.**

A073  Theodore Roethke  
*My Papa’s Waltz (1942)*  
American poet Theodore Roethke recalls with love and fear the frenzied childhood “waltzes” with his drunken father. **1 p.**
A190 Betty Rollin
In this 1970 article, journalist Betty Rollin debunks what she calls the “Motherhood Myth,” arguing that women are neither biologically nor psychologically programmed to bear children. 12 pp.

A658 Andy Rooney
*Doing vs. Thinking: Bush Excels at the Former (2003)*
Rooney argues that action is required of a president, and that President George W. Bush is the master of action; writers who critique his presidency are by nature inactive and therefore would not be successful presidents themselves. 3 pp.

A488 Franklin Delano Roosevelt
*Request for a Declaration of War (1941)*
After the devastating attack on the United States naval fleet at Pearl Harbor, the President asks Congress to declare war on Japan in this famous December 8, 1941 statement. 3 pp.

A881 Theodore Roosevelt
*The Proper Place for Sports (1903)*
Roosevelt’s letter to his son shows his balanced view of what a healthy life entails. He stresses that character is far more important than winning at a sport. 3 pp.

A763 Renato Rosaldo
*Grief and a Headhunter’s Rage (1989)*
An anthropologist comes to a deeper understanding of how the headhunting practices of a tribe in the Philippines relate to death as a “cultural force” that shapes the process of grieving. 20 pp.

A882 Chris Rose
*Hell and Back (2007)*
A newspaper columnist recounts his battle with severe depression in the aftermath of Hurricane Katrina. 10 pp.

A074 Mike Rose
*I Just Wanna Be Average (1989)*
Recalling his own high school experience, prominent educator Mike Rose argues that tracking students into vocational programs prevents them from reaching their potential. 15 pp.

A972 Mike Rose
*NEW! Possible Lives (1995)*
Rose defines the democratic classroom in a variety of ways, noting that the most important factor is the student’s sense of ownership of his or her learning. Rose also explains that good, even great teachers, must be knowledgeable but they must first of all be connected emotionally to their students. 28 pp.

A624 Tina Rosenberg
*The Free-Trade Fix (2002)*
Globalization is a term that expresses the desire for world wide economic unity and reduced strife between nations. However, according to the author, the rosy picture of equality created by globalization’s supporters can mask intentions that will hurt the poor. 20 pp.

A455 Roger Rosenblatt
*I Am Writing Blindly (2000)*
Rosenblatt poignantly analyzes why a man would write during his last, dark moments aboard a sunken submarine. 3 pp.

A764 Richard N. Rosenfeld
*What Democracy? The Case for Abolishing the United States Senate (2004)*
A historian argues that the U.S. Senate is by its very nature undemocratic, and that the time has come to either abolish it or greatly curtail its powers. 16 pp.

A429 Donald G. Ross
*Anatomy of a Hangover (1999)*
This description of the causes and symptoms of hangovers will horrify readers who have not yet experienced the after-effects of too much alcohol and will edify those who have experienced a hangover. 6 pp.

A533 Mike Ross
*This Eminem May Melt Your Ears (2000)*
In this review from Canadian Website JAM!, a newspaper writer offers faint praise with strong criticism of the controversial rap artist’s *The Marshall Mathers LP.* 2 pp.

A233 Carl T. Rowan
*Unforgettable Miss Bessie (1985)*
In a moving tribute, columnist Carl T. Rowan describes the humor, dedication, and stamina of a memorable teacher who inspired several generations of students. 5 pp.
A517 Jonathan Rowe
Reach Out and Annoy Someone (2000)
The author suggests that cell phones used in public are the second-hand smoke of communication. 6 pp.

A883 Elizabeth Royte
Transsexual Frogs (2003)
In this essay, Royte follows the research of minority scientist Tyrone Hayes as he discovers the dangers of using herbicides in the environment. She shows how Hayes was persecuted when he did not find the results that a large chemical company expected. 10 pp.

A555 Everett Ruess
Letters From the Frontier (1934)
Adventurer, artist, and writer Ruess disappeared in 1934 at the age of 20 while on a solitary journey through the southern Utah desert. His body was never found, and the reason for his disappearance was never determined. 4 pp.

A884 Carl Sagan
The Cosmic Calendar (1977)
A calendar of the life of the universe shows how very young humans are in the scope of the history of the universe. If the history of earth were the month of December, humans would have appeared on the 31st. 4 pp.

A619 Edward Said
Stereotyping of Arabs by the U.S. Ensures Years of Turmoil (2003)
In this essay from the Los Angeles Times, the late Columbia University scholar asserts that the United States government has engaged, in effect, in a successful propaganda campaign on its own people about the evils of the Middle East. 4 pp.

A518 Timothy Sandefur
The author acknowledges Native American opposition to evolutionary theories on religious grounds while discussing anthropologists’ interest in the buried remains of ancient Americans. 5 pp.

A275 Scott Russell Sanders
Death of a Homeless Man (1987)
It is not statistics that bring home the horror of homelessness, claims Scott Russell Sanders, but rather the plight of one man burning to death on a cold January night. 3 pp.

A782 Marjane Satrapi
The Veil (2003)
In this excerpt from her comic-strip memoir, a graphic novelist, illustrator, and author of children’s books tells the story of her experiences in Iran as a child from age six to fourteen, a time in which she witnessed the overthrow of the Shah, the repressive Islamic Revolution, and the horrors of war with Iraq. 8 pp.
| A331 | Nancy Scheper-Hughes  
*Truth and Rumor on the Organ Trail (1998)*  
Anthropologist Nancy Scheper-Hughes recounts the horrors suffered by the poor around the world when the wealthy are willing to buy organs acquired through illegal or unorthodox means. | 11 pp. |
| A765 | Eric Schlosser  
*Food Product Design (2001)*  
In this excerpt from *Fast Food Nation*, the author explains the “chemical wizardry” of the companies that keeps people coming back for more. | 15 pp. |
| A659 | Phyllis Schneider  
*Memory: Tips You'll Never Forget (2000)*  
Memories work differently depending on their origins, so we can tell how well our sense of memory is working by knowing what kinds of things we are trying to remember. | 2 pp. |
| A973 | Lawrence J. Schneiderman  
*NEW! The Ethics of Euthanasia (1990)*  
A medical ethicist explores the complicated issue of euthanasia, arguing that a number of difficult questions must be asked and answered before any conclusions can be reached. | 7 pp. |
| A460 | Charles Schulz  
*Dear Editor (2000)*  
In this *Peanuts* comic strip, Snoopy's letter to an editor sheds light on the publisher/author relationship. | 2 pp. |
| A561 | Charles Schulz  
*Do You Think that Things Change as We Get Older? (2000)*  
In this classic 1973 *Peanuts* comic, Schulz reflects on childhood views of the adult future. | 2 pp. |
| A459 | Charles Schulz  
*How Come You're Not Sitting in a Pumpkin Patch? (2000)*  
This *Peanuts* comic strip alludes to Shultz’s classic “Great Pumpkin” series. | 2 pp. |
| A887 | Barry Schwartz  
A sociologist argues that because it is human nature to adapt to change, Americans must constantly seek out new acquisitions in order to make themselves happy. | 11 pp. |
| A766 | Hillel Schwartz  
*Fat and Happy? (1996)*  
People who are fat are more gentle and loving than thin people. Fat people are also more generous and less angry and possessive. The world would simply be a better and kinder place if people were fat. Schwartz explains these theories in a satirical tone that will resonate with readers. | 10 pp. |
| A974 | Eugenie Scott  
*NEW! Accept It: Talk About Evolution Needs to Evolve (2009)*  
This short Q&A essay by the Director of the National Center for Science Education stresses that talk about evolution confuses both speakers and listeners. She stresses that science continues to look for new answers to new and old questions. Sciences do not believe; they investigate. | 3 pp. |
| A767 | David Sedaris  
*The End of the Affair (2004)*  
Two people attend a film together and experience romantic tragedy in wildly different ways. The difference in response leads both to misunderstandings and to insights for the author. | 3 pp. |
| A611 | David Sedaris  
*Me Talk Pretty One Day (2000)*  
If you've ever had a teacher who made you feel like a fool, you're not alone. With his identity hanging in the balance, the author uses humor to combat “fear and discomfort” while he tries to learn French from a difficult teacher. | 5 pp. |
| A975 | David Sedaris  
*NEW! Nutcracker.com (2000)*  
Sedaris, son of a computer designer, vows his hatred of computers, noting the horrors that they have wrought on the world: email, Christmas letters, dust on the keyboard. He vows to stay away from computers for his entire life until his sister introduces him to a particular app. | 5 pp. |
| A768 | Roberta Seid  
*Too ‘Close to the Bone’: The Historical Context for Women’s Obsession with Slenderness (1994)*  
The United States lives by a cult of thinness, where being thin is the most important virtue. In this selection, Seid dissects the complexities of why women fear gaining weight, desire to lose weight, and suffer pangs of insecurity when they are overweight. | 16 pp. |
A139 Richard Selzer
*Abortion (1976)*
Celebrated physician-writer Selzer rethinks his medical training upon witnessing a late-term abortion. 7 pp.

A140 Richard Selzer
*The Discus Thrower (1979)*
The breakfast ritual of a terminally ill double amputee angers the hospital staff and mystifies his doctor, Richard Selzer. 4 pp.

A141 Richard Selzer
*The Knife (1974)*
Using images of religion, exploration, poetry, and violence, physician Richard Selzer describes the tremendous power of the scalpel—and thus the surgeon—over the human body. 4 pp.

A976 Adam Serwer
*NEW! Getting Smart on Crime (2010)*
A journalist outlines innovative new policies for dealing with crime prevention, the exploding prison population in the United States, and the high costs of incarceration. 5 pp.

A431 Anne Sexton
*Snow White and the Seven Dwarfs (1981)*
Sexton’s revisitation to the Grimm Brother’s fairy tale provides a bittersweet view of what it means to be the beautiful queen who is replaced by a young beauty. 6 pp.

A711 Jack Shafer
*Blog Overkill (2005)*
An editor at Slate discusses the tendency of new media advocates to cast themselves as leading a media revolution, while failing to realize that the old media is already the new. 11 pp.

A316 William Shakespeare
*Shall I Compare Thee to a Summer’s Day? (1500s)*
The Bard praises his beloved and promises that poetry will create immortality for their love. 2 pp.

A977 Justine Sharrock
*NEW! First, Do No Harm (2009)*
A progressive journalist argues that the American Medical Association is abandoning its ethical responsibility by not taking action against medical personnel involved in mistreatment of enemy combatants. 8 pp.

A347 Nina Shea
*A Worldwide Phenomenon (1998)*
Lawyer Nina Shea reports on religious persecution across the world. 7 pp.

A909 Michael D. Shear
*Right Turn in July Put McCain on Unfamiliar Path (2008)*
Shear reports on his experiences on the campaign trail with John McCain, showing how both questionable judgment and devastating circumstances can lead to the loss of an election. 6 pp.

A235 Gail Sheehy
*Predictable Crises of Adulthood (1974)*
Sheehy explains that between the ages of eighteen and fifty most adults go through six stages of development—each involving a metaphorical shedding of old skin and beginning life anew. 8 pp.

A586 Carol Shields
*The Case for Curling Up with a Book (1997)*
The Pulitzer Prize winning author expounds on the importance of making time to read. 3 pp.

A191 Randy Shilts
*Conduct Unbecoming: The “Copy” Berg Story (1993)*
Journalist Randy Shilts uses the story of a homosexual Navy officer to illustrate the hypocrisy of the armed forces and the strength of family ties. 24 pp.

A978 Vandana Shiva
*NEW! Reclaiming Food Democracy (2000)*
In the following selection from Stolen Harvest: The Hijacking of the Global Food Supply, a physicist and environmentalist discusses the movement to promote “food democracy” against the genetic engineering engaged by global corporations. 7 pp.

A979 Polly Shulman
*NEW! Great Expectations (2004)*
In the following selection from Psychology Today, the author asserts that divorce rates have risen because of the unrealistic expectations people place on their partners and the institution of marriage itself. 7 pp.
<table>
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<td><strong>A662</strong> Leslie Marmon Silko</td>
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<td>In the Combat Zone (1995)</td>
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<td>In this essay, Silko contends that women are taught to be victims. Women must take charge of their own safety and never trust the state to do so on their behalf, as the state cares little for their physical well being. <strong>8 pp.</strong></td>
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<td><strong>A142</strong> Leslie Marmon Silko</td>
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<td>Language and Literature from a Pueblo Indian Perspective (1979)</td>
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<tr>
<td>Native-American writer Leslie Marmon Silko illustrates, by telling stories, the central position that storytelling holds in her culture and her language. <strong>12 pp.</strong></td>
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<td><strong>A236</strong> Leslie Marmon Silko</td>
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<td>Lullaby (1981)</td>
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<tr>
<td>An old Navajo woman recalls the invasion of white culture into her family's life as she and her husband live out their last days in poverty <strong>9 pp.</strong></td>
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<td><strong>A769</strong> Leslie Marmon Silko</td>
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<td>The Man to Send Rain Clouds (1969)</td>
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<td>Two men on a Pueblo Indian reservation happen upon the body of an old man who has died under a cottonwood tree in this short story by a highly acclaimed fiction writer. <strong>6 pp.</strong></td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>A980</strong> Ken Silverstein</td>
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<td>The Washington editor for Harper’s magazine investigates the appalling working conditions in Cambodian factories producing apparel for major American labels. <strong>19 pp.</strong></td>
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<td><strong>A888</strong> Upton Sinclair</td>
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<td>Chapter 14 from The Jungle (1905)</td>
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<td>In this excerpt from Sinclair’s famous work, the author offers a grim indictment of Chicago’s meatpacking industry as it existed in the late 19th and early 20th centuries. Sinclair’s book prompted President Theodore Roosevelt to order an investigation of the industry, which led to the creation of the nation’s first food and drug act. <strong>8 pp.</strong></td>
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<td><strong>A276</strong> Theodore Sizer</td>
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<td>Horace’s Compromise (1992)</td>
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<td>Prominent educator Theodore Sizer presents in Horace Smith a teacher compelled to compromise his standards daily in order to maintain the status quo in public education. <strong>8 pp.</strong></td>
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<td><strong>A889</strong> Andrea Smith</td>
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<td>Sexual Violence as a Tool of Genocide (2007)</td>
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<tr>
<td>A Native American scholar discusses the “relationship between sexual violence and colonialism.” This connection is critical in Smith’s estimation in matters of race. In her terms racism is a “biologized” phenomenon that is spread through the social fabric. <strong>13 pp.</strong></td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>A606</strong> Russell Smith</td>
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<td>Responsibility (1999)</td>
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<tr>
<td>A mother and son who seek mutual acceptance debate their respective life choices and values, leaving the son to conclude that he has one decision to make—the question is, will he make it? <strong>9 pp.</strong></td>
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<td><strong>A490</strong> Samantha Smith</td>
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<td>Letter to Uri Andropov (1982)</td>
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<td>A ten-year-old girl from Maine pleads with the leader of the Soviet Union to an end to the threat of nuclear war between his country and the United States. <strong>4 pp.</strong></td>
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<td><strong>A432</strong> Gary Snyder</td>
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<td>A Pulitzer Prize winning poet and wilderness writer responds to an essay titled “There Is No Going Back to Nature” and says that “home-based knowledge” is what we need to preserve the wilds. <strong>3 pp.</strong></td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>A237</strong> Susan Sontag</td>
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<td>Beauty (1975)</td>
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<td>By identifying the concept of beauty with femininity, argues noted feminist writer Susan Sontag, our culture traps women into endless preoccupation with outward appearance. <strong>3 pp.</strong></td>
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<td><strong>A144</strong> Susan Sontag</td>
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<td>On AIDS (1988)</td>
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<td>Feminist writer Susan Sontag explains how the fear of AIDS is evident in the metaphorical language of invasion used by the popular press to describe the disease. <strong>5 pp.</strong></td>
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<td><strong>A192</strong> Gary Soto</td>
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<td>The Jacket (1986)</td>
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<tr>
<td>In this tale of an ugly jacket, Mexican-American poet Gary Soto demonstrates the overwhelming significance that the right clothing has to adolescents. <strong>4 pp.</strong></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
A663  Wole Soyinka  
*Every Dictator’s Nightmare* (2003)  
A Nigerian speaks out on the new world order that asks each person to express free power and to reject the power of an unreasonable state. Soyinka suggests that this change comes through education and advancement. 6 pp.

A982  Tom Standage  
*NEW! Paradoxes of Plenty* (2009)  
For most of human history people were poor, until the changes in farming and industrialization in the 1700s in Europe. Then many people became moderately as they moved from farms to cities. This change happened in Asia in the late 1900’s with similar effects on wealth and living conditions. Human life has altered, but the ability of human culture to sustain the wealth may be in question in this century. 15 pp.

A890  David G. Spielman  
*Six Flags New Orleans After Katrina* (2007)  
A freelance photographer from New Orleans captures a popular American amusement park submerged in the floodwaters of Hurricane Katrina. 2 pp.

A535  Tessa Sproule  
*Exposing Ourselves in South Park* (1999)  
In this review from *Infoculture* on-line magazine, a film critic argues that the movie *South Park: Bigger, Longer & Uncut* is not tasteless entertainment but rather a scathing indictment of society’s willingness to blame the media for youth violence. 2 pp.

A981  Morgan Spurlock  
*NEW! Girth of a Nation* (2005)  
Americans have become obese at an alarming rate in the past forty years. Fast food restaurants have proliferated, as has the tendency to drink more sugar-filled soda and eat more calorie-filled junk food. The weight-related disease rate has soared while activity levels have dropped. 14 pp.

A433  William Stafford  
*Traveling Through the Dark* (1977)  
Through the story of a late night accident, Stafford suggests that when confronted by life’s difficult decisions, perhaps we are always “traveling through the dark.” 2 pp.

A076  William Stafford  
*Writing* (1970)  
Writing is not a skill, argues author and poet William Stafford, but a continuous process of discovery in which patterns eventually emerge. 3 pp.

A147  Elizabeth Cady Stanton  
*The Solitude of Self* (1892)  
Elizabeth Cady Stanton, one of the pioneers of twentieth-century feminism, argues that because each individual is solely responsible for him or herself, women must be granted equal rights with men. 6 pp.

A664  Brent Staples  
*A Brother’s Murder* (1996)  
A successful man describes the shooting death of his sibling who chose the streets rather than a straight life. 3 pp.

A146  Brent Staples  
*Black Men and Public Space* (1986)  
As a young African-American male in an urban setting, journalist Brent Staples explores the frightened reactions of other people to his presence, especially at night. 4 pp.

A983  Brent Staples  
*NEW! What Adolescents Miss When We Let Them Grow Up in Cyberspace* (2004)  
A journalist warns that excessive use of the Internet can stunt the social development of adolescents. 3 pp.
A348 Katina R. Stapleton  
*From the Margins to Mainstream: The Political Power of Hip-Hop (1998)*  
The musical genre of hip-hop fosters political action within and outside the inner-city African-American youth culture, argues writer and teacher Katina R. Stapleton. 19 pp.

A680 Shannon Stapleton  
*The First Recorded Casualty: Father Mychal Judge is Carried from the Towers (2001)*  
In one of the most memorable photographs from September 11, 2001, the body of New York Fire Department Chaplain Mychal Judge is carried from the fallen towers. 2 pp.

A797 Steven Stark  
*A Tale of Two Sitcoms (1997)*  
In this excerpt from *Glued to the Set*, the author demonstrates how different television programs reflect different views of the cultural at large. 7 pp.

A984 Claude M. Steele  
*NEW! The Many Experiences of Stereotype Threat (2010)*  
A social scientist attempts to explain why different groups of people may experience the threat of stereotype depending upon their assumptions about other groups. 11 pp.

A238 Shelby Steele  
*I'm Black, You're White, Who's Innocent? (1988)*  
Claiming that the race question in the United States is based on concepts of power and innocence, noted African-American writer Shelby Steele argues that the only way to solve the problem is to focus on moral, rather than racial, power. 15 pp.

A148 Shelby Steele  
*On Being Black and Middle Class (1990)*  
Americans who are both black and middle class, argues commentator Shelby Steele, face a double bind: Their class defines them in terms of assimilation and achievement, while their race defines them in terms of separatism and victimization. 13 pp.

A381 Wallace Stegner  
*The Blue-Winged Teal (1990)*  
In this atmospheric story, Wallace Stegner offers another version of the classic tale of the tensions between a father and son. 17 pp.

A557 Ed Stein  
*Before Interactive TV (1994)*  
In this comic strip, Stein comments on the effects of technology on daily life. 1 p.

A239 Gloria Steinem  
*Erotica and Pornography (1983)*  
Influential feminist Gloria Steinem argues that the difference between erotica, the physical expression of love between equals, and pornography, the expression of sexual dominance over a victim, lies in prevalent attitudes towards a woman's right to her own body. 5 pp.

A193 Gloria Steinem  
*The Importance of Work (1984)*  
Women should stop apologizing for working outside the home, argues Gloria Steinem; instead, they should consider work a basic human right. 6 pp.

A149 Gloria Steinem  
*Sex, Lies, and Advertising (1994)*  
Noted feminist Gloria Steinem uses the history of women's magazines, and of *Ms.* in particular, to illustrate the overwhelming, and disturbing, power of advertisers. 20 pp.

A660 Mitchell Stephens  
*The Death of Reading (1991)*  
Stephens argues that reading declines as the need for it in our culture increases; test scores continue to drop nationally; and families no longer communicate, preferring to watch TV and play videogames than to read or interact with one another. 14 pp.

A550 Wallace Stevens  
*Disillusionment of Ten O’Clock (1923)*  
A major twentieth-century poet imagines a world beyond surface appearance. 1 p.

A349 T.J. Stiles  
*Buffalo Soldiers (1998)*  
Historian T.J. Stiles describes a series of events during the post-Civil War American western expansion in which African-American soldiers were recruited to fight Native Americans. 12 pp.
NEW! Toward a Second Haitian Revolution (2010)
An American historian argues that in order to rescue Haiti from its current political and economic ruin, we must look to history and reverse the political and economic decisions that ultimately led to that ruin. 8 pp.

NEW! My Big Fat Straight Wedding (2008)
A noted journalist analyzes the 2008 California Supreme Court decision on same-sex marriage, arguing that it reflects a fundamental change in the way that society defines individuals. 5 pp.

The Pain of Animals (1989)
A zoologist details the impact of modern biological research on laboratory animals. 6 pp.

The Universe (1978)
Swenson whimsically muses on the universe and our place in relation to it. 2 pp.

NEW! The Secret to Stopping a Bully? (2010)
In the wake of two adolescent suicides resulting from bullying, a Boston Globe writer examines the effectiveness of anti-bullying campaigns in schools, suggesting an approach that may be more successful than those currently in use. 8 pp.

A Modest Proposal (1729)
In this classic essay, a social commentator satirically suggests that wealthy English landowners in Ireland carry their oppression of poor natives one step further—by cannibalizing them. 9 pp.

A senior editor for US News & World Report examines the broader implications of the scandal involving American service people abusing detainees during the Iraq war. 3 pp.

Twice a Minority: Chinese Women in America (1993)

Best in Class (2005)
This essay asks whether choosing a valedictorian has become too contentious for schools today. Many schools have stopped the practice to avoid hurt feelings and law suits. 13 pp.

The Joy Luck Club (1989)
Novelist Amy Tan tells the story of a young woman in war-torn China who establishes a mahjong club in order to distract herself and her friends from the death and devastation surrounding them. 6 pp.

Mother Tongue (1990)
Chinese-American novelist Amy Tan explains the various Englishes with which she grew up, emphasizing the impact of “broken” English on her development as a writer. 7 pp.

Two Kinds (1989)
Chinese-American novelist Amy Tan tells the story of a woman who discovers truths about herself and her culture as she recalls a childhood rebellion against her mother. 11 pp.

Men and Women Talking on the Job (1994)
Because men are socialized to be assertive and women to be conciliatory, explains linguist Deborah Tannen, miscommunication between the sexes in the workplace is frequent. 15 pp.

Sex, Lies, and Conversation (1990)
Once husbands and wives understand different conversational styles in terms of culture rather than right and wrong, they can begin to communicate more effectively with one another, says linguist Deborah Tannen. 6 pp.

Talking Up Close (1994)
Confusion can arise, explains linguist Deborah Tannen, when people from different cultures converse without understanding each culture’s linguistic conventions. 5 pp.
A893 Deborah Tannen
There Is No Unmarked Woman (1993)
Tannen lays out the issues inherent in the social differences between men and women by showing that women's clothing and names are always marked, showing who they are, whereas men's clothes and names tend to be neutral. 6 pp.

A278 Deborah Tannen
The Triumph of the Yell (1994)
Examining what she calls "the culture of critique," linguist Deborah Tannen laments the disintegration of reasoned discourse into win-or-lose argument. 4 pp.

A773 Aatish Taseer
A Damascene Conversion (2006)
In Damascus when the uproar over the Danish cartoons erupted, a freelance journalist chronicles his encounters with radical Islamists both Arab and European. 13 pp.

A588 Charles Taylor
The Sources of Authenticity (1991)
A philosopher muses on what it means "to be true to oneself" in this excerpt from a lecture broadcast on CBC radio. 5 pp.

A279 John Taylor
Are You Politically Incorrect? (1991)
Intolerance among leftist academics, claims journalist John Taylor, is as repressive and dangerous as the intolerance of Christian fundamentalists and McCarthyite anti-Communists. 19 pp.

A332 Edward Tenner
Ever Since Frankenstein (1996)
Scientist Edward Tenner explains that no advance in science or technology is without its natural and contrary opposite. 15 pp.

A280 Studs Terkel
Miss U.S.A. (1980)
Speaking to oral historian Studs Terkel, a former Miss U.S.A. criticizes the business of beauty pageants as exploitative and hypocritical. 6 pp.

A774 Studs Terkel
Roberto Acuna, Migrant Farm Worker (1974)
In this profile from Working, Terkel shows us how a migrant worker saw the need "to change the California feudal system." 9 pp.

A683 Bob Thaves
Thaves uses his Frank and Ernest comic to visually describe the definition of a palindrome. 2 pp.

A682 Bob Thaves
“Punctuation Might Break the Momentum” (2002)
In this Frank and Ernest comic, Thaves humorously illustrates a lesson of grammar and writing. 2 pp.

A281 Paul Theroux
Being a Man (1985)
The American ideal of masculinity, according to travel writer Paul Theroux, places an impossible burden on males who do not conform to it. 4 pp.

A538 David E. Thigpen
Deliverance (2000)
In this review of Everlast's CD, Eat at Whitey's, a Time writer explores how the rap artist's near-fatal heart attack has led to thoughtful new music that may expand the boundaries of hip-hop. 3 pp.

A651 Cal Thomas
Syndicated columnist Cal Thomas reviews the Mel Gibson movie, The Passion of the Christ, which tells of the life and death of Jesus in a no-punch-pulling manner; Thomas praises the movie as, truly, "the greatest story ever told." 3 pp.

A435 Dylan Thomas
Do Not Go Gentle into That Good Night (1952)
In this famous villanelle, the poet urges the reader to struggle against the inevitability of death. 2 pp.

A079 Lewis Thomas
Notes on Punctuation (1974)
A distinguished physician/essayist takes readers on a playful tour of English punctuation, offering observations on language seldom found in textbooks. 4 pp.
A282 Lewis Thomas  
*On Natural Death (1974)*  
Observing the death of a tree, a mouse, and two human beings, physician/essayist Lewis Thomas concludes that nature makes death easy by providing dying creatures with a respite from pain. 3 pp.

A989 Clive Thompson  
*NEW! Are Your Friends Making You Fat? (2009)*  
A contributing technology and science writer for the *New York Times Magazine* reports on the research of two social scientists seeking to discover how certain social behaviors may be “contagious.” 20 pp.

A154 Henry David Thoreau  
*Civil Disobedience (1849)*  
When a law perpetuates injustice, argues a celebrated reformer, citizens have not only the right but the responsibility to break that law. 21 pp.

A080 James Thurber  
*University Days (1933)*  
An American humorist uses several anecdotes to characterize a less than exemplary education at Ohio State University in the early years of the twentieth century. 6 pp.

A472 J.R.R. Tolkien  
*The Lord of the Rings (1965)*  
This powerful introductory poem for Tolkien’s Ring Trilogy counts down the twenty rings of power that can lead to human ruin. 1 p.

A336 Jean Toomer  
*Reapers (1923)*  
Toomer’s haunting poem describes a scene of African-Americans working to clear a field. 1 p.

A661 Tim Townsend  
*The First Hours (2001)*  
In this account by an eyewitness of the September 11, 2001 terrorist attacks in New York, Townsend explains feelings and images that most can only imagine. 5 pp.

A677 Gary B. Trudeau  
*Student Friendly Courses (2003)*  
A popular cartoonist pokes fun at the “dumbing down” of the college curriculum. 3 pp.

A483 Edward F. Truschke  
*“Dear Caring Friend”: A Letter of Solicitation from the Alzheimer's Foundation (2001)*  
The president of the Alzheimer’s Foundation seeks funds to fight a debilitating disease. 5 pp.

A895 Sojourner Truth  
*Ain’t I a Woman? (1851)*  
A legendary former slave addresses the 1851 Women’s Convention in Akron, Ohio, stirring her audience to demand equal rights for women. 2 pp.

A990 Mark Twain  
*NEW! Advice to Youth (1882)*  
The young ought to learn obedience, honesty, and the use of firearms. Twain elaborates on this advice in considerable detail, noting that children must pretend to be obedient at least in front of their parents and should learn how to lie and use firearms. 4 pp.

A991 Mark Twain  
*NEW! The Lowest Animal (1906)*  
Satire can become bitter when the writer means the barbs being hooked into the victim. In this case Twain pulls no punches in his satire of the human race, especially of the concept that the human race is the highest animal. Twain does his best to prove that humans are the lowest of animals. 7 pp.

A436 Mark Twain  
*Luck (1891)*  
In this satirical anti-fable, Twain bitterly writes about the rise of a bungling fool. 5 pp.

A081 Mark Twain  
*Reading the River (1883)*  
Once he has learned the science of the riverboat captain, a celebrated American regional writer discovers that the river itself has lost its beauty and its power to mystify. 2 pp.

A775 Mark Twain  
*The Story of the Good Little Boy (1865)*  
The great American humorist satirizes nineteenth-century inspirational stories by recounting the tale of a model boy whose good behavior never results in the expected rewards. 6 pp.
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Code</th>
<th>Author</th>
<th>Title</th>
<th>Notes</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>A194</td>
<td>Anne Tyler</td>
<td><em>Still Just Writing (1980)</em></td>
<td>Writers whose lives involve other jobs, raising children, or working in an office must learn to erect partitions between their writing lives and their working lives, explains novelist Anne Tyler. 10 pp.</td>
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<tr>
<td>A589</td>
<td>Jane Urquhart</td>
<td><em>Returning to the Village (1994)</em></td>
<td>The well-known writer describes her return to a small village where she attempts to write a new novel. 6 pp.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>A992</td>
<td>United Nations Commission on Human Rights</td>
<td><em>NEW! The Universal Declaration of Human Rights (1948)</em></td>
<td>In an attempt to prevent the kinds of human rights abuses witnessed during the Holocaust, the United Nations adopts a declaration articulating the inherent rights of all people. 7 pp.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>A492</td>
<td>United States Congress</td>
<td><em>The Bill of Rights (1789)</em></td>
<td>In passing the first ten amendments to the Constitution, Congress spells out the most basic rights of U.S. citizens. 3 pp.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>A674</td>
<td>United States Department of Homeland Security</td>
<td><em>Web Capture: Terrorism Forces Us to Make a Choice (2003)</em></td>
<td>This image captures the home page of a government Web site designed to educate people on possible acts of terrorism and what to do should one occur. 2 pp.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>A776</td>
<td>United States Government</td>
<td><em>9/11 Commission Report, Chapter 11 (2004)</em></td>
<td>In this chapter from the 9/11 Commission Report the authors analyze the “four kinds of failures” in an effort to explain the attacks on the World Trade Center and the Pentagon. 27 pp.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>A993</td>
<td>Tim Vanderpool</td>
<td><em>Death Watch in the Desert (2009)</em></td>
<td>An Arizona journalist reports on the conflict between humanitarian groups providing water for illegal immigrants crossing the border from Mexico, and the Border Patrol attempting to turn those immigrants back. 10 pp.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>A283</td>
<td>Michael Ventura</td>
<td><em>Report from El Dorado (1985)</em></td>
<td>Cultural critic Michael Ventura argues that electronic media have created a displacement between real life and images of it, which prevents us from defining ourselves as a culture. 14 pp.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>A994</td>
<td>Abraham Vergheese</td>
<td><em>NEW! My Own Country (1994)</em></td>
<td>A medical doctor is called in to treat an AIDS patient in severe distress and contrasts the behavior of his family with that of his longtime partner. 5 pp.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>A155</td>
<td>Judith Viorst</td>
<td><em>Friends, Good Friends—and Such Good Friends (1977)</em></td>
<td>Friendships among women, claims columnist Judith Viorst, can be divided into several categories, depending on the nature and intimacy of the relationships. 5 pp.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>A296</td>
<td>Kurt Vonnegut</td>
<td><em>Harrison Bergeron (1961)</em></td>
<td>An exceptional individual in a society dedicated to conformity tries to break free of his government-mandated handicaps. 7 pp.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Denotes image.
A996 Alice Walker
NEW! Am I Blue? (1986)
Observing the behavior of a horse on her neighbor's property, a prominent American writer ruminates on how people's treatment of animals often reflects their treatment of other, less privileged people. 5 pp.

A082 Alice Walker
Beauty: When the Other Dancer Is the Self (1983)
In a series of vignettes, an American writer relates her obsession with the childhood eye injury that disfigured her face—until her baby daughter recognizes her mother's beauty. 8 pp.

A085 Alice Walker
In her first published essay, Alice Walker concludes that the civil rights movement of the 1960s provided African Americans with a purpose for living: the desire for equality. 8 pp.

A083 Alice Walker
Everyday Use (1973)
A young woman's immersion in her African heritage contrasts with her mother's pride in her rural American roots in this short story. 9 pp.

A084 Alice Walker
In Search of Our Mothers' Gardens (1974)
As black women artists and writers search for their roots, they find a creative spark in the quilts, songs, and gardens of their oppressed, overworked mothers and grandmothers, says writer Alice Walker. 10 pp.

A241 Alice Walker
The Place Where I Was Born (1996)
African-American novelist Alice Walker compares the landscape of her native Georgia to that of her current home in northern California, recalling memories of a close-knit family living under the cloud of racism. 3 pp.

A461 Mort Walker
Your Work Has Been Outstanding (2000)
In this Beetle Bailey comic, Walker addresses gender issues and appropriate behavior. 1 p.

A551 David Foster Wallace
The Depressed Person (1998)
In this short story from Harper's magazine, the author creates a portrait of a lonely individual that readers might find either sad or funny, depending on their perspective. 16 pp.

A437 Robert Wallace
The Double Play (1961)
Wallace compares the double play in baseball to a dance and to a poem in turn. 2 pp.

A503 Earl Warren
Brown et al. v. Board of Education of Topeka et al. (1954)
The United States Supreme Court declares that separate educational facilities for black and white children are inherently unequal. 10 pp.

A546 Booker T. Washington
The Atlanta Exposition Address (1895)
In this 1895 speech, one year before the Plessy v. Ferguson decision, an African-American educator appeals to both blacks and whites to reconcile racial tensions. 12 pp.

A284 Harry Waters
Life According to TV (1982)
Journalist Harry Waters reports on a cultural critic's assessment of television, which the two believe presents a hopelessly distorted vision of life to the American public. 9 pp.

A997 Ethan Watters
NEW! The Americanization of Mental Illness (2009)
In this selection, the author discusses the problems that attend a distinctly Western view of mental illness given how that view has changed “not only treatments but also the expression of mental illness in other cultures.” 14 pp.

A640 Jonathan Watts
A journalist visiting North Korea writes that the public face of wealth and abject devotion to its dictator hides the reality of dire poverty and malnutrition of its people. 10 pp.

A897 Eric Weiner
“Happiness is Home” from The Geography of Bliss (2008)
In this chapter, Weiner explores “America’s place on the happiness spectrum.” According to the author, America is not as happy as its material wealth might suggest. 12 pp.
A898  Bryan Welch
*Putting a Stop to Slave Labor* (2007)
A farmer-journalist shines a light on the plight of undocumented immigrant laborers in the United States, arguing that our government's failure to deal effectively with the issue perpetuates a situation in which workers endure slave-labor conditions. 6 pp.

A285  Eudora Welty
*Listening* (1983)
Noted fiction writer Eudora Welty attributes her love of books to the careful nurturing of her parents, especially her mother. 9 pp.

A307  Eudora Welty
*A Worn Path* (1941)
An elderly woman battles fatigue and encounters danger on a determined and mysterious mission. 9 pp.

A242  Cornel West
*Race Matters* (1993)
The United States will never make significant progress in addressing race issues, argues noted authority Cornel West, until such issues are recognized not as a black problem, but as an American problem. 7 pp.

A493  E.B. White
*Letter to the ASPCA* (1997)
A renowned essayist challenges the organization's contention that his dog does not have a license—but the argument fades as he reminisces about dogs, Maine, and life in general. 2 pp.

A086  E. B. White
*Once More to the Lake* (1941)
Returning with his son to a lake he had often visited in childhood, a noted American writer feels the pull of the past amid constant reminders that time has moved on. 7 pp.

A156  Walt Whitman
*Death of Abraham Lincoln* (1865)
Against the backdrop of the end of the Civil War, poet Walt Whitman describes the assassination of Abraham Lincoln, calling him the first great martyr to this democracy. 9 pp.

A998  Walt Whitman
*NEW! When I Heard the Learn’d Astronomer* (1865)
Whitman contrasts the scientific mind and the aesthetic mind, choosing for himself the aesthetic and spiritual over the rational. 2 pp.

A335  Walt Whitman
*When Lilacs Last in the Dooryard Bloom’d* (1865)
Poet Walt Whitman remembers Abraham Lincoln with intense admiration and affection. 10 pp.

A552  John Edgar Wideman
*Newborn Thrown in Trash and Dies* (1992)
Wideman wrote this short story after reading a newspaper account of a murdered infant. He forces readers to confront the event by narrating the story from the point of view of the dead child. 9 pp.

A670  John Edgar Wideman
*Weight* (1999)
Wideman writes of a mother who must be a "weight lifter" in order to rear many children while living in the ghetto. One of her sons finds that he must learn how to appreciate this weight lifting before he can become a man. 13 pp.

A999  Ted Widmer
An American historian argues that a once-wealthy Haiti contributed significantly to the success of the American Revolution, and that the United States should repay its debt by helping its now-poor neighbor to recover from the devastating 2010 earthquake. 7 pp.

A778  Elie Wiesel
*The Perils of Indifference* (1999)
A winner of the Nobel Peace Prize and holocaust survivor addresses Congress and the President about the need for vigilance in the face of evil. 6 pp.

A438  Richard Wilbur
*The Death of a Toad* (1978)
A poem written in three sextets, this vivid description of the power mower killing of a toad evokes all the mythic fears of endings and twilight present, past, and future. 2 pp.

A243  George F. Will
*As Jails Overflow, Other Forms of Punishment Beckon* (1996)
Both the reality of prison overcrowding and the non-violent nature of many crimes, argues columnist Will, should lead us to consider alternative punishments designed to shame rather than incarcerate certain offenders. 3 pp.
A195  George F. Will  
*The Hard Blue Glow (1989)*  
In this introduction to a book about baseball, commentator George F. Will characterizes the sport as far more complex and active than most observers realize. **6 pp.**

A779  Patricia J. Williams  
*By Any Means Necessary (2002)*  
A Columbia University law professor expresses deep reservations about homeland security and the United States Patriot Act, claiming that it undermines freedom of speech. **4 pp.**

A287  Patricia J. Williams  
*Hate Radio (1994)*  
The popularity of right-wing radio shows such as those hosted by Rush Limbaugh and Howard Stern indicates a growing intolerance of minorities, women, and homosexuals, according to attorney Patricia J. Williams. **9 pp.**

A286  Patricia J. Williams  
*The Death of the Profane (1991)*  
Attorney Patricia J. Williams illustrates society’s reluctance to face racial issues in her description of discrimination at a popular boutique. **8 pp.**

A560  Terry Tempest Williams  
*A Shark in the Mind of One Contemplating Wilderness (1999)*  
In this review of the art of Damien Hirst, Williams contemplates the relationship between art and nature. **8 pp.**

A553  William Carlos Williams  
*The Red Wheelbarrow (1945)*  
In this well-known early twentieth-century poem, Williams offers a spare treatise on the natural world. **1 p.**

A350  Ian Wilmut  
*Cloning for Medicine (1998)*  
The controversial British embryologist, Ian Wilmut, whose work led to the creation of the infamous sheep, Dolly, discusses the medical implications of cloning research that uses living cells to create a whole new individual identical to the donor. **8 pp.**

A899  Duff Wilson and Michael S. Schmidt  
*Steroid Report Cites 'Collective Failure' (2007)*  
Wilson and Schmidt offer an account of the Mitchell report on steroid use in baseball. The investigation named 89 players, including many of the biggest stars in the game, and implies that steroid use threatens the integrity of “The American Pastime.” **6 pp.**

A360  Edward O. Wilson  
*The Biological Basis of Morality (1998)*  
Zoologist Edward O. Wilson probes an enduring question about the source of our moral being. **22 pp.**

A900  Gahan Wilson  
*Food Fight (1999)*  
This cartoon traces the use of genetic modifications of food from its first stages to a stage where human genes might be used to stimulate intelligence in other species. The results are predictable and gruesome. **2 pp.**

A439  Samuel L. Wilson  
*When We Were Very Young: Archaeologists Uncover the Traces of Childhood (1999)*  
Discussing recently unearthed information on previously unstudied peoples, Wilson stresses that children of the past may have been among the great innovators and creators in their societies. **5 pp.**

A288  Marie Winn  
*Television: The Plug-in Drug (1985)*  
Cultural critic Marie Winn contends that television has undermined day-to-day family life and relationships in the United States. **10 pp.**

A529  Ben Wittick  
*Photograph of the Approach to Pueblo wAcoma (1883)*  
This late nineteenth-century photograph depicts Native Americans who live in a New Mexico village atop a mesa. **2 pp.**

A289  Langdon Winner  
*Mythinformation (1986)*  
The so-called “computer revolution,” according to author Langdon Winner, has been accompanied not by historical and political reflection, but by what he calls “mythinformation.” **22 pp.**
A780  Daniel Wolf  
*Censorship Wasn’t All Bad* (2006)  
A British journalist argues that Western society has not abandoned censorship at all, but instead has simply revised what is considered offensive speech. 4 pp.

A244  Naomi Wolf  
*The Rites of Sisterhood* (1994)  
In a 1992 commencement address, feminist author Naomi Wolf urges young women to redefine womanhood and demand equal rights. 8 pp.

A520  Alan Wolfe  
*The Opening of the Evangelical Mind* (2000)  
Wolfe argues that conservative Christian thought has taken postmodern thought more seriously and more intelligently than the stereotypes of biblical fundamentalism would suggest. 31 pp.

A087  Tom Wolfe  
*The Right Stuff* (1979)  
Through a harrowing description of the flight training undergone by the early astronauts, a journalist defines that elusive “it” each trainee must have if he is to succeed. 5 pp.

A1001  Evan Wolfson  
A legal scholar presents a thorough and carefully constructed case for treating legal marriage as a right that should be afforded to all couples, heterosexual and homosexual. 14 pp.

A157  Mary Wollstonecraft  
*A Vindication of the Rights of Woman* (1792)  
It is in the best interests of men as well as women, argues eighteenth-century feminist Mary Wollstonecraft, to provide women with the opportunity to improve their minds. 3 pp.

A158  Elizabeth Wong  
*The Struggle to Be an All-American Girl* (1980)  
A Chinese-American writer recounts her childhood rebellion against learning Chinese language and customs; as an adult, she regrets her assimilation into American culture. 3 pp.

A159  Virginia Woolf  
*The Death of the Moth* (1942)  
Observing a tiny moth's struggle with death, noted British writer Virginia Woolf ponders life, creativity, and mortality. 4 pp.

A088  Virginia Woolf  
*Professions for Women* (1931)  
In a 1931 speech, an acclaimed author counsels women that what stands between them and fulfillment of their ambitions is the commonly held notion of femininity. 6 pp.

A196  Richard Wright  
*The Library Card* (1973)  
African-American writer Richard Wright recalls how his introduction to books not only expanded his intellectual horizons but also revealed to him the limitations imposed on him in the South of the 1920s. 9 pp.

A328  William Butler Yeats  
*The Second Coming* (1924)  
In this poem of dream and fantasy, William Butler Yeats blends many of his favorite images and symbols into a picture of the fears that accompanied the end of the nineteenth century. 2 pp.

A440  William Butler Yeats  
*The Song of Wandering Aengus* (1919)  
Yeats’ magical love poem relates his life-long search for the “glimmering girl with apple blossom in her hair” so that he can “pluck till time and times are done/The silver apples of the moon, /The golden apples of the sun.” 2 pp.

A1002  Anzia Yezierska  
NEW!  *America and I* (1922)  
A Polish immigrant in the early twentieth century writes of a young woman's longing to shed the vestiges of the Old World and to become truly American. 11 pp.

A441  Andi Zeisler  
*What’s the Deal, McBeal?* (1999)  
This *Ms.* magazine article accuses the originally quirky, innovative television program focusing on an independent young woman of degenerating into a showcase for female stereotypes. 4 pp.

A290  William Zinsser  
Author William Zinsser discovers that writing with a word processor makes it easier for him to edit his work, especially to eliminate unnecessary material. 7 pp.
William Zinsser
*College Pressures (1979)*
Educator William Zinsser explores pressures in the late 1970s that produced driven, goal-oriented college students who seemed to have lost the capacity to explore. 9 pp.

William Zinsser
*Shanghai (1984)*
Recounting the visit of two African-American jazz musicians to the Shanghai Conservatory of Music, author William Zinsser provides a brief history of both the musicians and their host. 14 pp.

Zikala-Sa
*From The School Days of an Indian Girl (1900)*
In this excerpt from her memoir, an American Indian activist recalls the confusion and terror of her first days in a missionary boarding school, where her native identity was stripped away from her. 6 pp.

James E. Zull
*NEW! Test by Trial: Using the Motor Brain to Close the Loop of Learning (2002)*
Thinking and learning work in different way. To learn and retain either information or processes, our brains must experience the information in an active way. We must write, converse, and perform in order to assimilate any new information or ideas into our long term memory systems. 17 pp.

Francisco de Zurburán
*The Crucifixion (1991)*
The seventeenth-century Spanish painter Zurburán depicts a modern-looking Christ figure. 2 pp.
Images

P037 Writing about Visual Texts, 7 pp.

A679 ACLU


A507 Scott Admas


A783 Adbusters


A792 Advertisement

*Hygiene and Social Attitudes* (1930), 2 pp.

A786 Willie J. Allen, Jr.

*Katrina: Growing Despair Amid the Ruins* (2005), 1 p.

A673 Wolfgang Ammer


A787 Anonymous


A793 Anonymous


A795 Belfast Partisans


A789 Belfast Partisans


A463 Michelangelo Bunoarroti

*Creazione di Adamo* (1500), 2 pp.

A528 Solomon D. Butcher

*Photograph of Family in Front of the Fred Lange House* (1910), 2 pp.

A812 CBS News Interactive


A816 James Crawford


A676 Erin Currier


A548 Marcel Duchamp


A781 Sidney Harris

*And Then a Miracle Occurs* (1977), 2 pp.

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