

WEEK THREE ASSIGNMENT AP LANG--This week you will be writing about **PARADOX**. Note, I gave you the definition and bolded part of it. While paradoxes seem contradictory in nature, they are actually the truth. *I always use the example of the "Christian" girls that accused so many innocent people in Salem of being witches and those people were hung. That is a paradox. Christians killing each other for pleasure.* The essay I have given you to read is a classic. Ironically, while it appears to be written recently, even during the pandemic, it was actually written 25 years ago!!! Imagine what the author would think of today's day and age!!!! One of my favorite lines (of many faves) is the "**we've learned to rush, but not to wait**". I'm going to let you approach this essay in several ways. You can either just read it and write how it makes you feel. Just write a good thorough freewrite. OR you can write about how it DOES or DOES NOT apply to 2020. OR you can pick a favorite part, such as I did and write on that favorite part. OR you can find a part that you passionately disagree with and write an argument against it. Just find a way to read it thoroughly. There is a lot packed into that small essay. Then write an essay about paradox. 300 words. This should be fairly easy. It is easy to like or disagree with this.

The WEEK 2 assignment about living through this pandemic I felt was also easy. I only had a few of you take me up on it. The few I got I really enjoyed. ---And I learned things about you. Be sure to remember the assignments run Monday -Friday and you must do the whole assignment. I hope you enjoy this one.

par·a·dox

/ˈperəˌdɒks/

noun

1. a seemingly absurd or self-contradictory statement or proposition that when investigated or explained **prove to be well founded or true.**

"in a paradox, he has discovered that stepping back from his job has increased the rewards he gleans from it"

Credit belongs to Dr. Bob Moorehead, former pastor of Seattle's Overlake Christian Church (who retired in 1998 after 29 years in that post). This essay appeared under the title "The Paradox of Our Age" in **1995**.

The Paradox of Our Time

We have taller buildings but shorter tempers; wider freeways but narrower viewpoints; we spend more but have less; we buy more but enjoy it less; we have bigger houses and smaller families; more conveniences, yet less time; we have more degrees but less sense; more knowledge but less judgement; more experts, yet more problems; we have more gadgets but less satisfaction; more medicine, yet less wellness; we take more vitamins but see fewer results. We drink too much; smoke too much; spend too recklessly; laugh too little; drive too fast; get too angry quickly; stay up too late; get up too tired; read too seldom; watch TV too much and pray too seldom.

We have multiplied our possessions, but reduced our values; we fly in faster planes to arrive there quicker, to do less and return sooner; we sign more contracts only to realize fewer profits; we talk too much; love too seldom and lie too often. We've learned how to make a living, but not a life; we've added years to life, not life to years. We've been all the way to the moon and back, but have trouble crossing the street to meet the new neighbor. We've conquered outer space, but not inner space; we've done larger things, but not better things; we've cleaned up the air, but polluted the soul; we've split the atom, but not our prejudice; we write more, but learn less; plan more, but accomplish less; we make faster planes, but longer lines; we learned to rush, but not to wait; we have more weapons, but less peace; higher incomes, but lower morals; more parties, but less fun; more food, but less appeasement; more acquaintances, but fewer friends; more effort, but less success. We build more computers to hold more information, to produce more copies than ever, but have less communication; drive smaller cars that have bigger problems; build larger factories that produce less. We've become long on quantity, but short on quality.

These are the times of fast foods and slow digestion; tall men, but short character; steep in profits, but shallow relationships. These are times of world peace, but domestic warfare; more leisure and less fun; higher postage, but slower mail; more kinds of food, but less nutrition. These are days of two incomes, but more divorces; these are times of fancier houses, but broken homes. These are days of quick trips, disposable diapers, cartridge living, throw-away morality, one-night stands, overweight bodies and pills that do everything from cheer, to prevent, quiet or kill. It is a time when there is much in the show window and nothing in the stock room. Indeed, these are the times!