

**AP Literature and Composition**  
**Summer Assignment**  
**2019-2020**

Read the poem “Song of Myself” in Walt Whitman’s Leaves of Grass. When you have completely read the entire poem, write a poem that celebrates your life using Whitman’s free-verse style:

- Free verse poems have no regular meter or rhythm.
- They do not follow a proper rhyme scheme; these poems do not have any set rules.
- This type of poem is based on normal pauses and natural rhythmical phrases, as compared to the artificial constraints of normal poetry.

Along with writing the poem in free-verse, your poem must also contain the following:

- Begin your poem by using Whitman’s first line: “I celebrate myself, and sing myself.” and build your poem off of that first line. So your whole poem is controlled by that first line.
- It must have a visible poetic structure similar to Whitman’s that identifies it as a poem.
- It must contain at least one hundred lines; a line is a group of words, not a sentence, so don’t be confused between the difference of a line and a sentence in poetry. Number your lines in increments of five on the right-hand side of the poem.
- It must be typed in MLA format.
- Due the first day of school.