

*Curiously enough, one cannot read a book, one can only reread it. A good reader, a major reader, and active and creative reader is a rereader.*

—Vladimir Nabokov, *Lectures on Literature*

### **IB Senior English Seminar SL, Summer Assignment**

For your summer assignment, you will be **reading** Arthur Miller’s play *Death of a Salesman* and **watching** the Maysles Brothers’ documentary *Salesman*. Please watch the documentary prior to reading the play. This will help establish a sense of context. Having watched *Salesman*, **write a 250 word summary** on the film’s attitude toward capitalism and gender inequality. As you **read and annotate** *Death of a Salesman*, make connections between stage directions, settings, props, costumes, light/sound and “the meaning they help shape.”

\*When school resumes, we will prepare for and conduct a Socratic Seminar on the two texts.

Arthur Miller’s *Death of a Salesman* is available at most libraries, new/used bookstores, and of course, Amazon.com. You can stream the Maysles Brothers’ *Salesman* at Amazon.com.

Please use this assignment to showcase your intellectual attributes. I am often more interested in knowing how you know what you know than what you know, you know?

If you have any questions regarding the summer assignment, please contact Mr. Binkley at [scott.binkley@vansd.org](mailto:scott.binkley@vansd.org). I look forward to meeting with all of you when the school year begins. Until then, have a great summer!