Name\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ Pd.\_\_\_\_\_\_

Duffy

“Is There Really Such a Thing as Talent?” (538)

Pre-reading Activity:

1. There is no such thing as talent, only hard work. **Agree/Disagree**
2. As long as you have self-discipline, you can accomplish anything in life. **Agree/Disagree**
3. I don’t understand why some people set out to be doctors/physicists when they know it will be a lot of hard work. **Agree/Disagree**

**Jobs I’d like to have Talents I have/Things I do well (don’t be modest!)**

1. 1.
2. 2.
3. 3.
4. 4.
5. 5.
6. What is the author, Annie Dillard’s claim?\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

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1. What is her defense?\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_
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1. The opening line of this essay states, “It’s hard work, doing something with your life. The very thought of hard work makes me queasy. I’d rather die in peace.” Yet she’s an established author. How does she accomplish things in life if she doesn’t like work?

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1. In this essay, the author states, “We want to believe that other people are natural wonders; it gets us off the hook.” What does she mean?

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1. What do you think would happen if the writer did force herself to learn wildflowers? What evidence supports your prediction?

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1. The last lines of this essay states an **idiom**, “The line is endless. I urge you to get in it, to get in line. It’s a long line—but it’s the only show in town.” What is she referring to?

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