

AP Language and Composition Summer Assignment

Welcome to AP Language and Composition! AP Language is a college-level course that demands careful analytic reading and writing. This summer assignment is designed to assess your skills in reading and analysis while also introducing you to one of the overarching questions of the course: why do writers write?

Do not hesitate to contact Mrs. Grandfield-Schimanski over the summer with any questions you might have. Email msggrandfield@gmail.com or kristen.grandfield@nhps.net (only from NHPS emails)

Google Classroom: You *must* sign up for the AP Summer Google Classroom for information throughout the summer about your readings and the new school year. The rubrics for each assignment will also be uploaded Class Code: du8ohn

What You Need to Know about AP Language

- The purpose of this class is to introduce students to a wide variety of college-level reading, writing, and analysis.
- Students are to be aware of the rigorous nature of an AP English course.
- Reading and writing assignments will be extensive and frequent.
- There is homework each night and it is checked and/or collected the days it is due.
- It is common to be working on two or three different assignments at once.
- Thoughtful analysis and effort are expected and required.
- Do not assume that high grades received in previous honors classes will guarantee an A in this class.
- Students who are involved in many other school-related activities should develop and rely on excellent time-management and study skills.

Presentation and Assessment of Summer Reading Assignment:

1. On the second day of class, you will turn in hard copies of all elements of the assignment stapled.
2. The assignment will be assessed individually (by assignment) using the rubric uploaded on Google Classroom.
3. On the third day of class, you will write two essays related to the books you read.
4. Late assignments lose TEN POINTS per day of lateness.
5. Handwritten or emailed assignments will not be accepted; however, there will be time to print in class (if necessary).

AP Language and Composition Summer Assignment

You are expected to complete each/all of the following:

1. **Book Notes:** Choose two books from the list below and complete Book Notes for each (notes are attached to this and will also be on Google Classroom):

Book Choices

How Starbucks Saved My Life by Michael Gates Gill

Escape by Carolyn Jessop

Evicted: Poverty and Profit in the American City by Matthew Desmond

The Overachievers: The Secret Lives of Driven Kids by Alexandra Robbins

How Soccer Explains the World by Franklin Foer

The Secret Life of Henrietta Lacks by Rebecca Skloot

A Walk in the Woods by Bill Bryson

Unbroken by Laura Hillenbrand

In Cold Blood by Truman Capote

Season of Life: a Football Star, a Boy, a Journey to Manhood by Jeffrey Marx

She Said Yes: The Unlikely Martyrdom of Cassie Bernall by Misty Bernal

The Glass Castle by Jeannette Walls

2. **Community Paper:** Identify one (1) way in which your community could be improved. Think local. Find a situation that interests you. Think about what you and people like you could do to improve the situation. Write up your idea of a community improvement for either New Haven or your own town (one page minimum)

3. **Museum Visit Notes:** Get out and visit a museum. Your notes should include a brief description of the museum and detailed descriptions of several exhibits, and the ideas they made you think about. Tell what you found most interesting in the museum. Many of the museums in New Haven and the surrounding area are free. There is no need to pay to enter a museum to fulfill this requirement. Instead of a physical museums, you may visit one a virtual museum if you wish. Museums do NOT have to be art museums; you can visit the Peabody or the Baseball Hall of Fame.

List of Virtual Museums:

<https://www.virtualiteach.com/single-post/2017/08/20/10-amazing-virtual-museum-tours>

Book Notes

It should be noted that any evidence of plagiarism results in an automatic zero. All researched evidence should be cited via MLA in-text citation (visit EasyBib if you need help).

Book Title:

1. Author and his/her times. When did he live? At what point in her career was this book written? How was it received?
2. Form, structure, plot. How is the book organized? Are there flashbacks, dream sequences, stream of consciousness, foreshadowing? Is the story (if there is one) told in strict chronological order
3. Setting. Where and when does the book take place? How does the setting influence the characters and/or the plot?
4. Characters. Choose 3 or 4 main characters and describe them briefly.
5. Language. Discuss diction, syntax, possible imagery or symbolism, irony, and tone. What do you notice and what difference do you think it makes?
6. Theme. What is the underlying idea(s) of the book? What does the author want you to think about the subject?
7. Significance of the title.

Book Notes

It should be noted that any evidence of plagiarism results in an automatic zero. All researched evidence should be cited via MLA in-text citation (visit EasyBib if you need help).

Book Title:

1. Author and his/her times. When did he live? At what point in her career was this book written? How was it received?
2. Form, structure, plot. How is the book organized? Are there flashbacks, dream sequences, stream of consciousness, foreshadowing? Is the story (if there is one) told in strict chronological order
3. Setting. Where and when does the book take place? How does the setting influence the characters and/or the plot?
4. Characters. Choose 3 or 4 main characters and describe them briefly.
5. Language. Discuss diction, syntax, possible imagery or symbolism, irony, and tone. What do you notice and what difference do you think it makes?
6. Theme. What is the underlying idea(s) of the book? What does the author want you to think about the subject?
7. Significance of the title.