

AP Language and Composition Summer Reading Assignment

2022

The focus of AP English is to analyze and discuss the rhetorical strategies used by writers, particularly in non-fiction writing. As such, your summer reading assignments may be a bit different from the reading you've done in the past, though I hope you find it enjoyable and interesting.

All assignments are **due August 31, 2022**. Assignments will be submitted digitally. Editorials must include links to the full text of the editorial you are responding to and should be written using MLA format. As these assignments are my first introduction to you as a student and a writer, I look forward to seeing what you are able to produce and expect you to put your best "pen" forward.

Part One: Everything's An Argument

You are required to read multiple chapters of Everything's An Argument. You will have no written work to do for this text, BUT you will need to be prepared to potentially lead a discussion when we return to school. We will do some class prep for this when you return to school, but you are expected to prepare over the summer.

- Read Everything Is An Argument Chapter 1. This will be pages 39-65 in the pdf.
- Complete the "Respond" sections of pages 42 (Both of them), 53, 64, and 65.
- Type your responses according to MLA format
- Be prepared to discuss the information in this text.

Use this PDF Copy of the text to complete your summer reading.

<file:///Users/barfieldk/Downloads/everythings-an-argument-6th-edition.pdf>

Part Two: Nonfiction Selection/ SPACECAT

Please select one of the following nonfiction works. Please note that some of these selections include "mature" topics. Remember that this is a college level course and as such these selections are presented to force you to think critically (and not just to blindly agree or disagree). That said, please spend some time looking up some background info on the texts and select the book that most appeals to you. Amazon is a good place to look for reviews and brief summaries. **"YOUNG READER" EDITIONS ARE NOT ALLOWED!**

PLEASE REMEMBER THAT YOU MAY CHECK OUT THESE BOOKS FROM THE LIBRARY. IF YOU NEED A LIBRARY CARD YOU CAN ORDER ONE ONLINE USING THE LINK: <https://lcpl.ent.sirsi.net/custom/web/registration/>

You can of course also buy a copy of, but the library is FREE

1. *Freakonomics: A Rogue Economist Explores the Secret Life of Everything* by Steven D. Levitt and Stephen J. Dubner
2. *Stiff: The Curious Lives of Human Cadavers* by Mary Roach
3. *Hillbilly Elegy: A Memoir in Family and Culture in Crisis* by J.D. Vance
4. *Becoming* by Michelle Obama
5. *Outliers* by Malcom Gladwell
6. *How to Be an Anti-Racist* by Ibram X. Kendi
7. *Quiet: The Power of Introverts in a World That Can't Stop Talking* by Susan Cain
8. *The Man Who Mistook His Wife for a Hat and Other Clinical Tales* by Oliver Sacks

Please take careful notes as you read. I expect to see annotations in your book (or eBook). After reading your selection, you should discuss the following elements of the piece. Please fill out the graphic organizer linked below. This is part of what you'll be turning in the at the beginning of the school year. There is probably not enough space included here, so you make take additional notes as you'd like.

Please take thorough notes on each of the areas:

You should also incorporate some of the ideas below: (See the next page)

NAME: _____

TEXT: _____

SPACE CAT

SPEAKER	The author or presenter. What is known about him/her?	
PURPOSE	The reason behind the text. What specific thing does the author want from the audience? Format: essay, speech, etc.	
AUDIENCE	The target group or individual to whom the piece is directed. Who is the larger or secondary audience? What qualities, beliefs, or values does the author assume the audience holds?	
CONTEXT	What is going on in the world as it relates to the piece and/or the writer? The time/place of the piece. Subject, general content or ideas. What is this piece about ?	
EXIGENCE	What was the spark – the CATALYST – that moved the speaker to write/act? How did this event impact the speaker?	

<p>CHOICES</p>	<p>Style: What are the moves of the writer?</p> <p>How is the author convincing the audience of his/her purpose? Identify moves w/ examples made within each section of the piece.</p> <p>***Structure, organization, word choice, specific devices, syntax, lists, analogies, etc.</p>	
<p>APPEALS</p>	<p>Which rhetorical appeals does the author use? Where? Why? What is the effect or purpose?</p>	
<p>TONE</p>	<p>What is the author's attitude toward the subject?</p> <p>How is the author conveying his/her message throughout the piece?</p> <p>Does the tone shift (w/evidence) in each section of the passage?</p>	

THESIS TEMPLATE: In (author's) (format), the author (active verb) (the audience) (purpose).



Part Three: Editorials

Read and analyze 5 editorials (not news articles) from a reputable journalist/columnist published in a reputable newspaper or magazine. You may certainly read more than 5 (and are encouraged to do so), but you will be required to submit the 5 responses total during the first week of school. We live in a world in which the term “fake news” is thrown around haphazardly. Part of what you will be assessed on is your selection of appropriate, thoughtful, and relevant editorials.

You must copy and paste your selected article or provide a link (so I can read it), and because of the nature of the questions asked (see below), you should select an editorial with some meat to it. Your first editorial has been selected for you:

<https://nj01001216.schoolwires.net/cms/lib/NJ01001216/Centricity/Domain/82/i-know-why-the-caged-bird-cannot-read.pdf>

The remaining 4 editorials are up to you, and hopefully will reflect *your* interests and ideas.

See the next page....

For each selection, answer the following questions as they apply to the editorial (numbers 1-10). Provide specific examples and quotes to prove your points. Do not reply in an essay format. I may only select one or two of your responses to grade, so make sure each response is thoughtful and complete.

1. What is the main purpose of the article? What is the author's intent? What is the author trying to accomplish?
2. What is the author's point of view? What is your response to his/her overall argument?
3. The most important information in the article is _____. Identify the key information used to support the main arguments.
4. What assumptions does the author make in the reasoning?
In other words, what is the author taking for granted? The assumptions are generalizations that the author does not think need to be defended within the context of the article, and they are usually unstated. For example, if the article discusses the need to strengthen the laws regulating development in sensitive environmental areas, the author may assume that you, the reader, agree that nature should be protected, and not go into basic detail about why nature needs to be protected.
5. What are the implications or the conclusions of the author's reasoning? What is the likely result the author foresees?
6. Does the author present other points of view? Discuss them.
7. What is the author's tone (attitude)? (The author's choice of words helps to convey tone.)
8. Does the author use imagery? Similes? Metaphors? Symbols? Allusions? Irony? Does the author appeal to your emotions, ethics, or logic?
9. Find 3-5 words within the article that you are uncertain of the precise definition. Copy the sentence the word is used in (or copy a portion of it if it is extremely lengthy). Look up and write out the dictionary definition for the word as it is used within the context of the article.
10. How effective is this article? Do you believe the author has accomplished his/her goal? As you think about the answer to this question, consider the following:
 - a. Does the author provide precise, relevant support and stay on topic? Is the author consistent or contradictory?
 - b. Does the author show how complex the issue is? Or is the author just being trivial and shallow?
 - c. Is the author's reasoning accurate?

I look forward to working with you next year! Have a great summer!