

11TH GRADE AP English: Language and Composition

Summer Reading Assignments

Welcome to 11th GRADE ADVANCED PLACEMENT ENGLISH LANGUAGE AND COMPOSITION!

AP classes are rigorous, college level courses. The emphasis in this class is on the reading and writing of primarily nonfiction works such as journals, letters memoirs, biographies, autobiographies, editorials, and essays. As an AP student, you are expected to read, write, and discuss various forms of writing and literature.

The nonfiction genre is one type of writing we will be exploring this year is writing for the AP Test. In preparation for this, you will be reading a variety of novels/nonfiction as part of our summer reading. The summer reading/writing assignments introduce you to these expectations. This summer reading package consists of five assignments. You are to submit the **typed** work on the **SECOND DAY** of class. We will continue to work with the nonfiction format essays during the year.

For your convenience, the required book titles are linked directly to amazon.com from the St. Joseph High School Affiliate Store. Try the [St. Joseph High School Amazon.Com Affiliate Store](#). Some of the books are also available for checkout at the Florence Williams & Athalie Peterson libraries (or obtain permission from Mrs. Skalkos to check out any available copies from the school library). I will also try to have the folks at MEKTRON in Frederiksted order copies of the book. **NEEDLESS TO SAY, I EXPECT YOU TO READ THE UNABRIDGED VERSIONS OF THE BOOKS.**

ASSIGNMENT 1: Investigative Reading (June, July, August)

1. You are to select **one issue** of **local/national** importance to follow for the summer.
2. You must read articles from newspapers, magazines, etc. concerning the chosen issue and write a synopsis of each article. (Five articles (5) for June; ten (10) for July; ten (10) for August).
3. On the second day of class you will turn in:
 - typed synopses which must include title of article, date, source.
 - a 500-word (typed, double-spaced) essay showing progress of the issue from the date you began.

ASSIGNMENT 2:

Purchase a copy of *How to Read Literature Like a Professor* by Thomas Foster (**ISBN-10:** 006000942X **ISBN-13:** 978-0060009427) (After you are finished with this book, be sure to secure it safely on your bookshelf. We will come back to it.)The author of this book demonstrates what you should be looking for as you read literature. The selected

chapters below provide a foundation of our exploration and analysis of literature. The book will help you develop a critical perspective that is essential to your progress in the class.

Procedure: **Follow these steps to complete the assignment.**

1. **Read one** of the following chapters:

Chapter 5 – Now, Where Have I Seen Her Before?

Chapter 10 – It’s More Than Just Rain or Snow

Chapter 12 – Is That a Symbol?

Chapter 13 – It’s All Political

Chapter 19 – Geography Matters

Chapter 20 - ... So Does Season

Chapter 21- Marked for Greatness

Chapter 24- ...And Rarely Just Illness

Chapter 25 – Don’t Read with Your Eyes

2. Based upon your chapter reading: **Summarize the chapter by writing down five to eight key** facts you discovered from the reading.
3. Select a short story (It can be from any genre and may be one with which you are very familiar. Use your 9th or 10th grade literature book or look on line for one). The story should lend itself to analysis based upon your reading selection from Step 2.
4. Read the short story.
5. Utilizing the key facts from the *How to Read Literature Like a Professor* chapter you selected in Step 2, analyze the short story; be sure to write down how the elements in your chapter apply to the short story
6. Type everything up and bring to class by the Friday of the first week of school.

ASSIGNMENT 3: READING NONFICTION LITERATURE

Required Reading. Choose ONE of the books from the list of NONFICTION and complete a response journal.

List of Nonfiction. CHOOSE ONE:

All But My Life by Gerda Weissman Klein. (ISBN-10: 0809015803 ISBN-13: 978-0809015801)

The Audacity of Hope: Thoughts on Reclaiming the American Dream by Barack Obama. (ISBN-10: 0307455874 ISBN-13: 978-0307455871)

Walden by Henry D. Thoreau (ISBN-10: 0807014257 ISBN-13: 978-080701425)

The Autobiography of Malcolm X by Alex Haley and Malcolm X. (ISBN-10: 0141185430 ISBN-13: 978-0141185439)

An American Childhood by Annie Dillard (ISBN-10: 0060915188 ISBN-13: 978-0060915186)

A. READ THE BOOK. Keep a **Reading Response Journal for each of the books you read. A Reading Response Journal is a notebook**, in which you write about your reading. In it you communicate thoughts and feelings about the book you are reading. In it you should:

- 1) Write the date of each entry at the top of each page.
- 2) Write, on an average, a page for each entry—although the length may vary.
- 3) You may draw a cartoon as a visual entry if you wish, but you must include dialogue between the characters or create captions.
- 4) Produce at least ten written entries for each book and as many visual entries as you like

What do students write about in a Reading Response Journal? They

- make predictions about what will occur next
- write from the main character's perspective
- agree or disagree with the theme or the tone of the book
- show a personal reaction to the story or content
- explain reading strategies that you used
- describe the main character or any character's personality
- comment on how a character changes
- relate the book or thesis to your personal life

Also consider these:

- What tone does the essay contain? Why?
- What rhetorical devices are creating this tone?
- What purpose is the purpose of the writing ... expository, persuasive, personal narrative?
- What specific devices can you pick out that this author tends to use in these to shape the tone and style?

Finally, feel free to write anything about the book that you feel strongly about

B. AFTER YOU ARE FINISHED, put the assignments in a binder with sections clearly marked. Submit on the first day of class.

ASSIGNMENT 3: Define the attached terms and be prepared to take a test on them when you return to school. You are responsible for definitions only when you return in August; however, you will need to be able to identify examples of the rhetorical strategies/devices, so it might be useful for you to include examples where appropriate as well.

ASSIGNMENT 4: COLLEGE ADMISSION ESSAY

- By the close of this year, you should already be thinking of what college you want to attend. To begin your preparation, you will practice responding to some essay prompts from well-known colleges. Choose one of the prompts listed and write a draft of your response. This will be due the second week of class.
- What work of art, music, science, mathematics, or literature has influenced your thinking, and in what way?
- Discuss how a particular work of music, literature, or art has inspired your life.
- Tell us how a particular book, play, film, piece of music, dance performance, scientific theory or experiment or work of art has influenced you. If you choose a novel, film or play, assume we know the plot.
- Consider the books you have read in the last year or two either for school or for leisure. Please discuss the way in which one of them changed your understanding of the world, other people, or yourself.
- Tell us about a situation where you have not been successful and what you have learned from the experience.

RHETORICAL TERMS TO KNOW:

Abstract	Connotation	Deduction	Denotation
Dialect	Ellipsis	Alliteration	Antecedent
Diction	Epigraph	Analogy	Antithesis
Didactic	Ethos	Anecdote	Argument
Discourse	Ad hominem	Allusion	Cacophony
Colloquial	Euphemism	Figurative language	Induction
Conflict	Euphony	Hyperbole	Imagery
Inference	Logical fallacy	Metonymy	Oxymoron
Invective	Logos	Motif	Parable
Irony	Metaphor	Onomatopoeia	Parody
Pathos	Persuasion	Style	Synthesis
Pedantic	Rhetoric	Syllogism	Theme

Periodic sentence	Rhetorical question	Symbol	Thesis
Personification	Satire	Syntax	Tone
Transition	Understatement		