

A.P. English Language & Composition Summer Reading 2022

“We think about education as a stepping stone into a higher socio-economic class, into a better job. And it does do those things. But I don't think that's what it really is. I experienced it as getting access to different ideas and perspectives and using them to construct my own mind.”

-Tara Westover

Welcome to AP Lang! The A.P. English Language and Composition is a course mainly focused on the reading, writing, and analysis of nonfiction works. We will explore how people write to share their personal experiences, to argue their point of view, to critique other perspectives, to share discoveries and findings, to advocate for change, and to build bridges and understandings among peoples. We will read, analyze, and interpret texts from many different time periods and perspectives, and learn to develop our own voices as writers along the way. This course will develop your critical thinking skills and better prepare you for the rigor of college classes, but it will take a lot of hard work, time, and dedication.

Your AP Language and Composition Summer Assignments are listed below. **There are two parts in total.** They are designed not only as a diagnostic assessment of your motivation, reading comprehension, and writing ability, but also as an introduction to the skills you will need for the upcoming year.

Part One: Choice Reading and Essay

All of the following choices have won awards or literary recognition. Some books may contain strong language and adult themes. I highly encourage you to click the links for each book and read the Amazon reviews and the first few pages of the book before deciding which book is best for you. I want you to read a book that you will enjoy. Do not choose a book that may be objectionable to either you or your parents.

[Hillbilly Elegy by J.D. Vance](#)

[The Other Wes Moore by Wes Moore](#)

[Evicted by Matthew Desmond](#)

[Educated by Tara Westover](#)

Essay: Based on the choice book you read, you will write an essay that will be due the first week of school. Your essay should be no more than two pages long, typed in MLA Formatting: double spaced, 12 point font, Times New Roman.

Essay Prompt: In this essay, you must explain the author's message or purpose; why did he/she write this book? Explain what universal idea, or shared human experience is discussed or

revealed as the author pieces together the events and anecdotes of his/her life. Remember, every move an author makes is a choice; particular events and anecdotes are chosen to reveal and support major ideas. Remember to have a strong and specific thesis statement that asserts the author's message or purpose. Then, using at least three quotations that are correctly integrated and cited, explain how key scenes support and develop this message. Be sure to make an assertion, provide evidence, and then comment on and explain the evidence as you develop your essay.

Part Two: Current Event Summary-Response

Select one current event article on the issue of your choosing. It would be best to choose an issue that you are interested in and understand. A good place to locate an article is by doing an internet search on [Kelly Gallagher Article of the Week Archive](#). This site features dozens of articles, each formatted to under two pages in length and including thinking questions.

Read the article and write a two-paragraph MLA formatted Summary-Response. This includes a paragraph summary of the article followed by a paragraph personal response to the article. The personal response portion includes your opinion on the topic with the reasons why you feel that way. You should use at least two quotes, one in each paragraph, from the text to support your thinking. If you are unsure of how to proceed, do an internet search on: [Summary Response Paper](#). This is a very common type of college writing and will be helpful when we work on research assignments.

Part Three: List of Rhetorical Terms

Become familiar with the terms listed below. **You need to create flashcards** (3x5 index cards) with the words and definitions. There will be a formal assessment of your understanding of these terms at the beginning of the year. As you read, be aware of the use of these devices and be prepared to discuss their use in appropriate works.

Archetype
Allegory
Alliteration
Allusion
Ambiguous
Analogy
Anaphora
Antecedent
Anticipate Objections
Antithesis
Aphorism
Apostrophe
Assonance
Atmosphere
Caricature
Cacophony
Colloquialism
Connotation
Denotation

Diction
Double Entendre
Euphemism
Dystopian
Dysphemism
Euphemistic
Extended metaphor
Figurative language
Figure of speech
Genre
Hyperbole
Imagery
Inference/infer
Irony/ironic
Verbal irony
Situational irony
Dramatic irony
Metaphor

Mood
Onomatopoeia
Oxymoron
Paradox
Parallelism
Parody
Personification
Point of view
First person
Third person
Third person limited
Third person omniscient
Repetition
Rhetoric
Rhetorical appeal
Logos
Ethos
Pathos

Rhetorical modes
Exposition
Argumentation
Description
Narration
Rhetorical question
Sarcasm
Satire
Style
Symbol/symbolism
Syntax
Theme
Thesis
Tone
Transition
Understatement
Wit