

AP Language and Composition Summer Reading/Textbook Assignment

Note: Assignments are tentative and may change. If you are enrolled in AP Language and Composition for next year, be sure to check with Mrs. Johnson before summer vacation.

**ALL SUBMITTED WORK MUST BE TYPED,
OR IT WILL NOT BE ACCEPTED.**

Reading

- Purchase or check out **one** of the books listed below. These books are also on the AP U.S. History list and may be used to satisfy the reading requirements for both classes.
- Quiz grade: The following reading assignments are worth one quiz grade and are due the first day of class. You may, of course, submit the assignments before the first day of class.
 - For every one hundred pages (or closest chapter completion):
 - Create five discussion (how & why) questions. Provide answers and page documentation.
 - Write a reflective paragraph about what you have read. Please note the page number.
- Test Grade: Take the AR test **BEFORE** the first day of class. **If the test is not taken before the first day of class, you will receive a zero test grade.**

Authors/Books

- Stephen Ambrose – *Band of Brothers* (World War II, European Theater)
- Stephen Ambrose – *Undaunted Courage* (Lewis and Clark, Westward Expansion)
- Joseph Ellis – *Founding Brothers* (Revolutionary War and early Federal Era)
- David McCullough – *1776* (Revolution)
- David McCullough – *The Path Between the Seas* (Imperialism and the Panama Canal)

Everything's an Argument

- Purchase or check out *Everything's an Argument* from Mrs. Johnson.
 - It is not necessary to read every single word. Practice your skimming skills and grasp the general gist of the chapter. It is a good idea to know terms that are printed in **bold** type.
 - **You must know the meaning of "Egos," "Logos," and "Pathos."**
- Daily grade: the following reading assignment is worth one daily grade. Beware: There are very few daily grades, so this one is very important.
- Read Chapter One.
 - Page 36:
 - Question 1 - Discuss two items.
 - Question 2 – Complete six-paragraph essay.
 - Question 4 – Discuss two items.
- Test grade: Be prepared for a test or essay concerning terminology and general information.

QUESTIONS? Contact Mrs. Johnson: jsjohnson@appomattox.k12.va.us

- Write "AP Lang" as the subject – I do not open emails from unfamiliar sources.

AP Language and Composition

Basic Information

- AP English is a year-long class.
- AP English is a five-point weighted class.
- I try to give students progress reports on a weekly basis, so they always know their grade. Their grades are posted regularly on PowerSchool.
- AP students will have considerably more homework than they have had in the past. There is always homework.
- There will be weekly quizzes on Fridays.
- There is no AR goal requirement; however, some post-reading AR quizzes/tests will be assigned.
- There will be weekly current events assignments; some will involve accessing the *New York Times* via Internet.
- I will not accept handwritten work.
- All essays must be typed and printed before class. If there are technical problems, they need to be resolved before fourth block.
- Timed essays cannot be made up. If a student misses a timed essay because of an excused absence, the next timed essay will count for both essays.
- Assignments are due on or before the assigned date. Late work will be accepted within twenty-four hours of the designated deadline and will lose one letter grade (a minimum of eleven points). After twenty-four hours, the assignment will not be accepted, and a zero grade will be recorded. **Note: Late work must be submitted within twenty-four hours, not necessarily the next class session.**
- Assignments completed during an unexcused absence will not be accepted.
- All work is due when the tardy bell rings. Work submitted late may receive a grade reduction.
- If a student attends school or any school activity on the same day that s/he is absent from my class, the assignment is due at the scheduled time **unless alternative arrangements have been made with me**; otherwise, a zero will be received.
- If absent, it is the student's responsibility to obtain notes or homework assignments and submit them on the announced due date.
- It is the student's responsibility to alert the instructor concerning upcoming, pre-arranged absences (the removal of wisdom teeth, family vacation, etc.); otherwise, all assignments are due on the scheduled dates.
- Following an absence, it is the student's responsibility to obtain an "Admit to Class Slip" from either his/her first block teacher or office personnel; otherwise, the absence will be considered unexcused and assignments will not be accepted.
- Students must pass the reading and writing SOL tests in order to graduate. However, since AP English is an advanced reading and writing, college-level class, it is assumed the students already possess the skills necessary to pass these tests. Consequently, I will be focusing on the AP Language and Composition exam and not the SOL tests.
- To receive college credit, students must pass the AP exam with a minimum score of "3." Credit is determined by the college the student plans to attend. Community colleges may accept a "3." Larger universities require a "4" or "5."
- Students must pay a fee to take the AP test. Previously, it was around \$85, but it may be more this year.
- Students are not permitted to work on my assignments during other class periods (other than independent research). A grade reduction may take place if a student is caught disobeying this rule.
- Students are not to interrupt me during another class. You may enter the classroom to drop off assignments in the tray. Otherwise, you are not to disrupt my other three classes.

Supplies

- Blue or black ink pens and pencils
- Three-ring binder, college ruled paper, dividers
- Highlighters
- Thumb/Flash drive
- A composition book
- Computer/Internet access outside of class
- You may be requested to purchase *5 Steps to a 5*, McGraw Hill (approximately \$20).

Grading Policy:

- Grading for AP English Language and Composition is on a ten-point scale.

Daily/homework:	20%
Quizzes/short essays:	20%
Tests/projects/speeches:	30%
Essays:	30%