

AP English Language and Composition  
Summer Assignment – 2023

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Google Classroom Code – um4gzp4  
<https://classroom.google.com/c/NjA5MDAxODg4MjI1?cjc=um4gzp4>

Welcome to AP English Lang & Comp! I am so excited that you've made such a great decision to take this class and better prepare yourself for your future after high school. As a class, we have the opportunity to broaden our horizons and perspectives through discourse (which is a fancy word for argumentation and rhetoric). We will experience the formidable power of persuasion in ways that you may have never even recognized before! After this class, you'll never look at things the same. We will read, interpret, argue, write, and more as we tackle our topics. It's going to be a whole new way of looking at nonfiction because this isn't boring, terrible, horrible, no good, very bad nonfiction.

Rationale: AP Language and Composition is a college class offered in the high school setting. Please know that the topics and depth are presented at the college level so as to best prepare students for their future success at their chosen college/university. This class is the intensive study of rhetoric and language as it is used in nonfiction works. Almost all of the pieces we read and analyze will be nonfiction. Detailed annotations are required in order to delve deeply into an author's purpose, diction, and syntax to more fully understand and appreciate the use of rhetoric. Substituting alternative readings will not be considered.

Our class begins with reading and writing assignments.

**Reading Assignment(s):**

1. Thomas Foster's *How to Read Nonfiction Like a Professor* this summer.
  - a. Following that, you'll pick one nonfiction book from a specific list to read (not over the summer, but in the second semester) and put apply the ideas Foster presents into practice.
  - b. You should purchase your book if possible – if not possible, you can check it out from the public library, the CHS library, or borrow one of mine.
2. Provided logical fallacies documents – Based on my provided list, you will create a cheat sheet for studying logical fallacies.

**Writing Assignment(s):**

1. Read Thomas Foster's *How to Read Nonfiction Like a Professor* and record a summary of each chapter typed in the provided Google Doc in Google Classroom. Each summary should occupy approximately 1/3 to 1/2 page (single-spaced, 12-point, Times New Roman font).
  - a. This is the most time-intensive part of your AP summer work. There are numerous chapters in this book focusing on becoming a "close reader" and analytical thinker. I *strongly* suggest that you do **not** leave this assignment off until the last week of July. You will be burning the midnight oil to finish before school starts. Instead, work through the reading and assignment by pacing yourself a few chapters each week. You should submit your assignment prior to the first day of school (the 8:00am-10:00am day) This should be your original work. Do not copy it from another source or another student! Please do not hand in your first assignment late.
  - b. **Annotation:** Rather than annotating, you should include in your document at least two critically important quotes from each chapter as part of your summary.
2. Logical Fallacy Cheat Sheet: Use the provided document in Google Classroom.
  - a. name of the logical fallacy,
  - b. the definition,
  - c. an example – from a literary work (fictional or nonfictional) – include an MLA Citation for your example – Not sure about an MLA citation? Use the OWL Purdue site for help,
  - d. and an explanation of why it's an example.

**And finally...how will this assignment impact your grade?** This summer assignment is your first grade in AP English Language. The grade will be composed of your Foster summaries (50%), logical fallacy cheat sheet (50%). In addition, you will write an in-class essay about Foster's book and will collaborate on a group presentation over sections of Foster's book. All told, the summer assignments are an important part of your first semester grade. Make it an A!

I am more than happy to help if/when you have questions. Please don't hesitate to email me. I do my best to respond quickly, and I would much rather you ask a question than not and waste your time doing something incorrectly.

*Concordia discors*  
(Harmony in discord)  
-Horace