

Summer Assignment 2020
AP English Language and Composition

CLASS OF 2022, welcome to your first AP English course! This year we will focus on learning to analyze a variety of nonfiction texts, synthesize a variety of sources to inform our position, and construct persuasive arguments. Since AP English Language and Composition is different from other English courses in its focus on rhetoric, we will not be reading a novel for our summer assignment this year.

Instead, you will engage with a variety of text genres, listening to a podcast, reading some articles, and watching a video, while paying close attention to the claims the author or speaker is making in each text and how the claims are supported.

We encourage you to annotate (take notes) as you read/listen, noting the claims and evidence, and marking several specific quotes/passages that support the claim(s). You will be referencing these texts directly during class discussions and writing exercises, and your annotations can greatly assist you.

This assignment will be due on the second Friday of the 2020-21 school year. Below are the links for each video, podcast, and document as well as your instructions for what to complete for each one. **For each source, record the following information: the title, the speaker/author, one claim made, two pieces of evidence for the claim, and how the evidence supports or strengthens the claim.** The selections are divided into the **two topics of deception and education**, so **choose what interests you most:**

| | | |
|--|---|---|
| Choice 1: | | |
| Deception – Listen to the podcast, read the two articles, and choose one video to watch. | | |
| Podcast – Listen: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • “Why We Lie” - www.npr.org/programs/ted-radio-hour/311863205/why-we-lie or bit.ly/EMSAPLangWhyWeLie <p>*You will need to click “Listen to the Full Show” to hear the entire podcast</p> | Documents – Read both: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • www.psychologytoday.com/articles/199704/the-truth-about-lying or bit.ly/EMSAPLangTruth • www.health.com/mind-body/why-do-people-lie or bit.ly/EMSAPLangWhyLie | Videos – Watch one: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • www.ted.com/playlists/222/5_talks_on_the_truth_about_lying or bit.ly/EMSAPLangTEDTruth • “Honest Liars” (TEDx) - www.youtube.com/watch?v=YpEeSa6zBTE or bit.ly/EMSAPLangHonestLiars |
| Choice 2: | | |
| Education – Listen to the podcast, read two articles, and watch the video. | | |
| Podcast – Listen: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • “Freakonomics Goes to College: Part I” - freakonomics.com/2012/07/30/freakonomics-goes-to-college-part-i-a-new-freakonomics-radio-podcast/ or bit.ly/EMSAPLangFreakonomicsCollege | Documents – Choose two to read: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • www.nytimes.com/2018/05/16/opinion/college-useful-cost-jobs.html or bit.ly/EMSLangNYTCollege • www.npr.org/2019/12/16/787909495/fewer-students-are-going-to-college-heres-why-that-matters or bit.ly/EMSAPLangNPRCollege • www.realcleareducation.com/articles/2015/01/15/college_for_all_would_set_many_up_for_trouble_1146.html or bit.ly/EMSAPLangCollegeforAll | Video – Watch: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Is College Worth the Time and Money? Above the Noise (associated with PBS and NPR) www.youtube.com/watch?v=CfoGLH7kQLs or bit.ly/EMSAPLangCollegeWorth |

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Organizing Your Notes and Responses

You may choose your own format to set up your notes as long as the elements are present – title, who is speaking, what claims are being made, and how those claims are supported or expressed. This chart is one example of how you may choose to organize your notes and responses.

| Title | Speaker/Author | Claim(s) | Evidence 1 | Evidence 2 | How the evidence supports the claim | Additional thoughts/reflections on the article, podcast, or video |
|-------------|----------------|----------|------------|------------|-------------------------------------|---|
| Podcast: | | | | | | |
| Article #1: | | | | | | |
| Article #2: | | | | | | |
| Video: | | | | | | |

Some helpful verbs to consider when writing and speaking about someone’s claims:

Attack, charge, claim, propose, defend, challenge, qualify, counter, repudiate, allege, validate, confirm, affirm, argue, assume, answer, agree/disagree, verify, resolve, concede, grant, generalize, specify, debate, dispute, assert

We are proud of you for challenging yourself by enrolling in AP English Language and Composition and look forward to working with you on this venture! Any additional questions? Please contact any of the teachers listed below.

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