

AP LANGUAGE AND COMPOSITION (11TH GRADE ENGLISH)

OPTIONAL SUMMER WORK 2020

Dear Student,

Thank you for your commitment to prepare for AP Language and Composition for the 2020-21 academic year. The following work is **optional and will not be graded** upon your return to school. However, the following two activities were selected to help you develop skills in rhetorical analysis and argumentation. Completing either or both of these assignments should help you become comfortable and confident when the course begins.

ACTIVITY #1. Select a non-fiction book to read this summer. Build the skills we will use in class this semester to prepare for the course. Read to identify the rhetorical situation. Then, see if you can follow the author's line of reasoning. As you read the book, note where rhetorical appeals are particularly effective and how the author uses rhetorical devices to support his/her central argument. Hyperlinks are included for the following topics:

[Help identifying the rhetorical situation](#)
[What are rhetorical appeals?](#)

[Help understanding an author's line of reasoning](#)
[What are rhetorical devices?](#)

How to select your non-fiction text: First, ask yourself if there's something you've been wanting to read that you haven't gotten around to reading and if it's *non-fiction*. Next, talk to the people you live with, do they have any recommendations? This is a great opportunity to read and discuss together. It goes without saying, but when you do finalize your selection **screen it for appropriate content** by including this point in your discussion! Of course, AP Lang & Comp teachers have a lot to say about what books would be good choices for an APL&C class; a few links follow.

<https://othslibrary.libguides.com/apenglish>

<https://www.westada.org/domain/6356>

<https://www.knoxschools.org/cms/lib/TN01917079/Centricity/Domain/1785/AP%20Nonfiction%20Reading%20List.pdf>

And, just to browse recent non-fiction award winners and/or best-sellers:

<https://www.pulitzer.org/prize-winners-by-category/223>

<https://www.nytimes.com/books/best-sellers/combined-print-and-e-book-nonfiction/>

ACTIVITY #2: Read Thank You for Arguing by Jay Heinrichs. Read and annotate any edition of the book. Use two-column notes for annotating if you read online. You may purchase a copy or find the full text is available online:

<http://dawnweathersbee.weebly.com/uploads/2/1/7/4/21744784/thank-you-for-arguing.pdf>

**If this link breaks over the summer, you can use any edition of the full pdf of the book found online.*

Suggested Annotations: *significant ideas, questions, examples, reflections.* Pay special attention to the section at the end of each chapter, called "The Tools", which summarizes main ideas. You will begin to learn rhetorical terms and to recognize the psychology behind different types of arguments.

Five Chapters to Prioritize:

Chapter 1: Open Your Eyes

Chapter 2: Set Your Goals

Chapter 3: Control the Tense

Chapter 6: Make Them Listen

Chapter 14: Spot Fallacies

Once you receive your schedule and know your teacher, you may email Ms. McDonald at hlmcdonald@wcpss.net or Ms. Tekotte at jtekotte@wcpss.net if you have any questions.

Happy reading!

Heather McDonald and Joy Tekotte