

Language and Composition Summer 2022 Assignment

Dear Future AP English Language and Composition Student,

This class deals primarily with a critical reading of **non-fiction sources** and the **art of rhetorical argument**, and **applying critical analysis** to those sources. The following assignments are intended to help you begin to sharpen the critical skills you will need to succeed in this class and on the Language and Composition AP exam. Prior to the first day of class, we are asking you to have done the following:

Task #1: Read **at least one** of the books from [the attached list](#). These are available to be checked out from the PV library in May or you may purchase your own copy. **We encourage you to research the titles and find one that seems like a good fit for you. There are limited copies of each title, so if one seems particularly interesting you should plan to check that out as soon as possible or purchase your own copy.** After reading the book you will **write a one-page rhetorical analysis** of the author's overall purpose and how you see them achieve that purpose. See the [Introduction to Rhetorical Analysis](#) handout and the [AP Rubric](#) for more information on what we will be looking for in this essay. **Summary does not equate to analysis.**

Task #2: Listen to **at least three** episodes of either “This American Life,” “Ted Radio Hour” or “Radio Lab” which are weekly radio programs that appear on National Public Radio. They may be heard on the radio at the same time each week on 91.7 FM, streaming on the internet at www.thisamericanlife.org or <https://www.npr.org/programs/ted-radio-hour/> or www.radiolab.org or downloaded as a podcast. In each episode, these shows connect multiple stories together around a common theme. **For each episode write an analysis**, citing evidence from the show, of how each of the smaller segments within the show connects to that episode's broader theme. Then **write a reflection** on the importance of the theme to yourself personally or to society as a whole.

All written work should use MLA format, including headers, margins, spacing, font and title. If you have questions about MLA formatting, please look it up. There are many MLA resources available.

Please be advised that **school academic integrity policies are in strict effect for these assignments**. We are not interested in what OTHERS think about these topics—we want to read your original thoughts. When we meet in August we will give you instructions for submitting your written work to Turnitin.com. **Any work that is found to be plagiarized will earn a 0 and you may be dropped from the class.**

We suggest that you **do not wait until the last minute** to complete these tasks. Careful thought and analysis will be required to be successful.

See you next year,

Mr. Hislop and Mrs. Garrett

